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The Butterfly House at Cypress
Gardens, Moncks Corner

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Welcome to South Carolina

On behalf of the citizens of South Carolina, I'd like to welcome you to the Palmetto State and invite you to explore everything our state has to offer. Hospitality is part of our heritage here, and so are good food, beautiful places and smiling faces.

Our rich cultural heritage, abundant wildlife and our majestic beaches and mountains make South Carolina a destination like no other. We couldn't be happier to have you here with us.

Yours very truly,

Henry McMaster
Governor of South Carolina



Downtown Abbeville



On the Cover

Edisto Beach on Edisto Island is one of four oceanfront state parks in South Carolina.

SOUTH CAROLINA WATERWAYS

FISHINSOUTHCAROLINA.COM

UPCOUNTRY

South Carolina's Upcountry region is one of natural beauty, outdoor adventures, and intriguing history. Follow the Cherokee Foothills National Scenic Byway for a taste of all of these features. Begin your journey at Cowpens National Battlefield where a critical battle of the American Revolution was won by the Patriot forces. Driving west you'll soon see peach orchards and strawberry fields before the road goes from flat to rolling. You're now beginning to see the Blue Ridge Mountain Range. Stop at roadside stands for peaches, strawberries, apples, or boiled peanuts. Take side trips to see rushing waterfalls, state parks, sparkling lakes, streams & rivers, and scenic view sheds. UpcountrySC.com

LAKE HARTWELL COUNTRY

Lake Hartwell Country is an angler's paradise. Lake Jocassee, Lake Keowee, and Lake Hartwell are teeming with trout and bass, and rivers like the Chattooga, the Chauga, and the Eastatoee provide world-class fly-fishing experiences. There is no shortage of fishing waters in the region. Bass is king, Lake Hartwell now hosts four Bassmaster Classics, and Lake Keowee is home to some of the most crystal-clear waters and stunning views in the state. But you cannot forget Lake Jocassee, an undeveloped mountain lake where state-record trout roam. Add in one of the top fly-fishing waters east of the Mississippi on the Wild and Scenic Chattooga River, and you've found your home. LakeHartwellCountry.com

THOROUGHBRED COUNTRY

Longing for a change of pace? Thoroughbred Country offers an array of opportunities for outdoor enthusiasts. Grab your kayak and fish along the South Fork of the Edisto River, a natural cathedral of hardwoods and cypress, home to pinfish, catfish, eels, largemouth bass, and the occasional alligator. Boat or perch on the Savannah River where beautiful scenery and abundant oxbows provide excellent fishing of hardy nutrient-rich fish. Don't forget to check out the lakes at Aiken and Barnwell State Parks for a relaxing stay-and-play experience. In addition to fishing, this region has a variety of hunting, camping, disc golf, and equestrian activities to choose from. We're Way More than Horses! TBredCountry.org

MOUNTAINS
MIDLANDS
COAST

OLD 96 DISTRICT

The Old 96 District offers easy lake access and a variety of different fishing experiences and backdrops. Calhoun Falls State Park sits along several pine-covered points extending out into sparsely-developed Lake Russell, which hosts many annual fishing tournaments. If bass fishing and catfish events pique your interest, then Lake Greenwood is a popular option to cast your line across the 11,400-acre lake. Outside the stillness of the woods at Baker Creek State Park sits Lake Thurmond, a 71,100-acre lake. This lake offers easy fishing access and is also home to Hickory Knob State Resort Park one of the best state park resorts in the southeast. Here you will find great fishing along with cabins, a lodge, a restaurant, and a bar. VisitOld96SC.com

OLDE ENGLISH DISTRICT

Natural beauty surrounds South Carolina's waterways, and the Olde English District offers many adventures for a variety of water enthusiasts, from the leisurely angler to the seasoned kayaker. Drift beside blooming Rocky Shoals Spider Lilies at Landsford Canal in May and June for an exciting excursion. Rent a canoe at Cheraw State Park to experience the cypress wetlands of Lake Juniper or at Goodale State Park to paddle through a scenic forest. If the lake life is more your speed, opt for a visit to one of the many larger bodies of water in the region, including Lake Wateree, Lake Wylie, and Lake Monticello. It's time to break out your paddles or fishing pole and begin your water-bound adventure. OldeEnglishDistrict.com

PEE DEE REGION

The Pee Dee Region of South Carolina offers food, fishing, hiking, bird watching, camping and all the outdoor adventures you could imagine. We have the Big and Little Pee Dee Rivers, Lynchies River, and Black River which all are known for their natural beauty, fishing, and kayaking. Travel the 66 mile stretch of black water tributaries known as the Revolutionary Rivers National Recreation Trail ending up near Snow's Island, Francis Marion's secretive headquarters. We also have three State Parks; Lee State Park, Little Pee Dee, and Woods Bay. After a day on one of our rivers or parks try some of the Pee Dee's great BBQ that we are also known for. For more information go to PeeDeeTourism.com

MYRTLE BEACH & THE GRAND STRAND

There are no limits on the types of fishing in the Myrtle Beach area, from the pier to deep-sea charter fishing, saltwater to freshwater, and inland fishing. The Myrtle Beach area is home to several piers, with excellent Spanish mackerel and bluefish fishing, and 60 miles of beaches, perfect for casting a line from the shore. Freshwater fishing includes catfish, bass, and more. Hop aboard a deep-sea charter and catch sea bass at a whole new level. Several restaurants will also cook your catch! Murrells Inlet, one of the 14 Grand Strand communities, is the "Seafood Capital of South Carolina," with fishing and shrimp boats bringing fresh catches to restaurants throughout Myrtle Beach for a true hook-to-plate experience. VisitMyrtleBeach.com

HISTORIC CHARLESTON & RESORT ISLANDS

A destination on the coast, surrounded by salt marshes, tidal creeks, and the Atlantic Ocean, the Charleston area's abundance of activities offers something for everyone. Kayak with dolphins on Shem Creek, cast your line from a pier, book an offshore fishing charter, or dive into the Lowcountry's culinary scene with fresh seafood on almost every menu. Whether you're looking for the next family excursion or opting for a more laid-back getaway, there are endless opportunities to take in those sweeping views and salty breezes that Charleston and its surrounding beaches have to offer. CharlestonCVB.com

Santee COOPER COUNTRY

Santee Cooper Country is home to the largest lake system in South Carolina. Lake Marion and Lake Moultrie, Santee Cooper lakes, cover 171,000 acres of freshwater. The Santee Cooper lakes consistently rank as a top 20 best fishing lakes by Bassmaster. These lakes proudly hold several state records including the Arkansas Blue Catfish - 113.8 lbs. and Largemouth Bass - 16.2 lbs. The lakes vary from shallow swamps and blackwater ponds to vast open water with an abundance of underwater structures or fish habitats. The lakes do not freeze over in the winter making them available for fun all year long. SanteeCooperCountry.org

LOWCOUNTRY

The cliché "a sportsman's paradise" is often used to lure fishermen. In our SC Lowcountry, we have the bounty to affirm that claim. With upwards of 20 marinas, 56 boat ramps, 6 fishing piers, and 14 artificial reefs, it offers solid year-round fishing for freshwater species including largemouth bass, crappie, bluegill, redbreast, and trophy catfish. Our marshes and estuaries showcase renowned, fast-paced action for prized inshore species including seatrout, redfish, and flounder. Offshore bounty is plentiful. Commonly captains make short work of dolphin, king mackerel, snapper, grouper, tuna, wahoo, and more. Come choose from dozens of creeks & rivers, a beautiful little lake, or a great big ocean. If variety and versatility are your goals, we have it all! SouthCarolinaLowcountry.com

CAPITAL CITY/LAKE MURRAY COUNTRY

Capital City/Lake Murray Country is an angler's paradise and a world fishing destination! With over 650 miles of shoreline, Lake Murray is home to the best freshwater fishing in the world. The Lake has broken numerous bass fishing records over the years and most recently was the first US location to host the XVI Black Bass World Championship. Bassmaster recently named Lake Murray #1 bass fishing lake in the Southeast and #4 in the USA. Lake Murray Country hosts many regional events and tournaments throughout the year - featuring fishing enthusiasts catching largemouth bass, striped bass, crappie, catfish, and bluegill. Visitors love getting on the water with our talented local fishing guides to learn the latest in fishing trends and tips. LakeMurrayCountry.com

FRESHWATER/
SALTWATER
DIVIDING LINE

DISCOVER
South Carolina

Set the Scene

YOUR BACKDROP FOR VACATION

DISCOVER AN ARRAY OF PICTURE-PERFECT LANDSCAPES ACROSS SOUTH CAROLINA: WATERFALLS AND FORESTS IN THE MOUNTAINS REGION, LAKES AND RIVERS IN THE MIDLANDS REGION AND WHITE-SAND BEACHES AND MOSS-DRAPED OAKS IN THE COASTAL REGION. FIND YOUR SCENE.



Photo: The Midlands Region offers an abundance of rivers, lakes and reservoirs. As the largest lake in the state, **Lake Marion** in Santee is beloved by boaters and anglers for its big fish, abundant wildlife and easy public access points.



Photo: Nestled amid South Carolina's Coastal Region, the small fishing town of **McClellanville** offers all the signature appeal of the area: moss-draped oak trees, saltwater marshes, historic buildings and the freshest seafood.

Photo: Spectacular waterfalls, scenic hiking trails and the majestic Blue Ridge Mountains set the scene in the Mountains Region. Revel in sweeping views from the mountaintop at Table Rock State Park in Pickens, and then cool off in Carrick Creek Falls.



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South Carolina Department of Natural Resources



A ROAD TRIP TO IGNITE YOUR APPETITE

DARIUS RUCKER FANS THE FLAMES OF YOUR APPETITE WITH THIS LIST OF SOUTH CAROLINA FAVORITES

BY LIBBY WIERSEMA

Darius Rucker might have sampled all kinds of delicious delicacies across the country during his 2023 Starting Fires Tour, but when it comes to road trip food stops, he carries a torch for South Carolina. The three-time Grammy-winning superstar, big-hearted philanthropist and proud Charleston native has spent a lifetime dining all over the Palmetto State and is always adding to his list of favorites. Here, he shares some of his hottest picks, from upscale dining rooms to casual cafes to downhome dives.



Photos: (from top) Darius Rucker, Greenville; CAMP, Greenville

JAY ADAMS, VISITGREENVILLE



Greenville

1 START IN GREENVILLE

CAMP, Greenville

This bistro distinguishes itself by serving a globally inspired menu in contemporary spaces (chef's counter, modern dining room, sleek bar, pretty patios and rooftop bar) for a one-of-a-kind dining experience.

Hot Pick: Pork & shrimp dumplings with salsa macha (spicy, nutty salsa from Veracruz, Mexico), peanut, cilantro

Chicora Alley Restaurant & Bar, Travelers Rest

The sparks are always flying at this airy restaurant-bar-coffee shop operating in a former firehouse. Southern-Caribbean dishes, live music and its proximity to the Swamp Rabbit Trail make it one of the liveliest eateries in town.

Hot Pick: Shrimp & grits topped with jerk shrimp, roasted red pepper cream sauce, bacon and mango salsa

Bobby's BBQ, Fountain Inn

Darius Rucker's love for barbecue is no secret, so

it's no surprise this local icon landed on our list. Self-taught pitmaster Tay Nelson has put the town of Fountain Inn on the smoked meat map with his brisket, pulled pork, ribs, turkey, sausage and line of seasoning blends.

Hot Pick: Toss-up between brisket and house-made sausage

Columbia

2 103 MILES FROM GREENVILLE

DiPrato's Delicatessen, Columbia

This neighborhood gem—just off the beaten downtown path—is part Southern cafe, part Italian bistro, part New York deli. DiPrato's luscious lunches and breezy brunches are renowned. Think gooey paninis, crisp salads, juicy corned beef, and benedicts with rich hollandaise.

Hot Pick: Smoked gouda and bacon pimento cheese with fresh-fried pita chips

Terra, West Columbia

Local producers get top billing on Chef Mike Davis' farm-to-table menu chockful of fresh flavors. Dishes are creatively and expertly executed to impress guests—and you will be among them.

Hot Pick: Grilled Carolina Heritage Farms pork chop

Bernie's Chicken, Columbia

Welcome to the fried chicken joint of choice for legions of locals.

A University of South Carolina alumnus and Gamecocks fan, Rucker loves its proximity to Williams-Brice Stadium. Tailgating doesn't get more delicious or convenient than that.

Hot Pick: Fried chicken with crinkle-cut fries, slaw and a side of baked beans

Grand Strand

3 152 MILES FROM COLUMBIA

SeaBlue Restaurant & Wine Bar, North Myrtle Beach

Contemporary American cuisine meets classic French at SeaBlue, which showcases South Carolina's coastal bounty plus expertly prepared steaks, lamb and duck.

Hot Pick: Pan-seared crab cakes with arugula, Dijon aioli, lemon and extra virgin olive oil

Big Mike's Soul Food, Myrtle Beach

Big Mike Chestnut uses his mother's original recipes to create meat-and-three plates that are generously laden and infused with Southern flavor. Don't forget the cornbread and sweet tea.

Hot Pick: Toss up: collard greens and peach cobbler

Johnny D's Waffles and Benedicts, North Myrtle Beach, Myrtle Beach, Surfside Beach

Delicious benedicts, buttery pancake stacks, fresh egg platters and

all the extras—home fries, grits, biscuits—get elevated treatment, thanks to proprietor Jamie Daskalis, a South Carolina Chef Ambassador.

Hot Pick: Red velvet waffle drizzled with cream cheese icing, topped with cinnamon sugar and butter

Charleston

4 99 MILES FROM GRAND STRAND

FIG, Downtown

Every dish served at this dining icon honors the Lowcountry's unique culinary heritage. Darius has made no secret of his affinity for FIG (an acronym for Food is Good) and lauds its use of locally sourced ingredients. James Beard Award-winning Chef Mike Lata doesn't just strive for excellence—he epitomizes it.

Hot Pick: Ricotta gnocchi alla Bolognese

Rodney Scott's Whole Hog BBQ, Upper King

Named "Best Chef: Southeast 2018" by the James Beard Foundation, renowned pitmaster Rodney Scott keeps the whole-hog traditions of South Carolina alive and smoldering at his aromatic barbecue joint. Follow your nose and experience the magic of cooking low and slow.

Hot Pick: Whole hog pulled pork slathered in Scott's signature vinegar-pepper sauce



VISIT MYRTLE BEACH



EXPERIENCE COLUMBIA SC/ FORREST CLONTS

Photos: (clockwise from top left) FIG, Charleston; Johnny D's Waffles and Benedicts, North Myrtle Beach, Myrtle Beach, Surfside Beach; Terra, West Columbia; DiPrato's Delicatessen, Columbia



EXPERIENCE COLUMBIA SC/ SEAN RAYFORD

Bowens Island, Charleston

Heaps of freshly roasted local oysters, Frogmore stew (a.k.a. Lowcountry boil), and straight-off-the-boat shrimp served in rustic surroundings on the water's edge create a laid-back, ultra-local dining experience at this James Beard American Classic eatery.

Hot Pick: Oysters: fried or roasted on the half-shell

Kaminsky's Dessert Café, Downtown

End your night in Charleston the Darius way. Head to Kaminsky's near the Charleston Market, where you'll find a mind-boggling selection of decadent sweets, all made fresh daily. From cheesecakes and layer cakes to pies and cobblers to milkshakes and sundaes, indulge in your favorite or discover a new one.

Hot Pick: Coconut cake

Hilton Head Island

5 98 MILES FROM CHARLESTON

Annie O's Kitchen, Hilton Head Island

Southern dishes, conscientiously prepared—that's the calling card of this casual eatery, which uses all-natural ingredients, free-range chicken, grass-fed beef and wild-caught, sustainable seafood.

Hot Pick: Chicken n' dumplings with pulled white and dark meat, biscuit dumplings and vegetables in a light, saucy base

The Crazy Crab, Jarvis Creek

From the menu to the views, the Lowcountry takes the spotlight here. Traditional oyster roasts, Lowcountry boil and fresh shrimp and fish are all part of the magic here as are the stunning sunsets and marsh views.

Hot Pick: She crab soup with a basket of hushpuppies

Nectar Farm Kitchen, Bluffton

This farm-to-table spot fits in just right with historic Old Town Bluffton charm. Brunch is a special occasion here, so sit back, slow down and savor it all with a Farmhouse Bloody Mary.

Hot Pick: Lowcountry fried bird, a buttermilk biscuit, fried chicken breast and poached egg sandwich drizzled with sawmill gravy

Now that your appetite is fully involved and burning for a taste of South Carolina, go ahead and blame Darius Rucker. Fires might not start themselves (as he croons in his new hit song), but this one can easily be contained. So come on down and experience the time-honored culinary traditions of South Carolina.



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SC BBQ Trail

Make your mouth water: Explore the SC BBQ Trail by region, then come get a taste for yourself.

A TWIST ON THE TRADITIONAL

BUZZ-WORTHY BARBECUE SPOTS
MODERNIZE THE CLASSICS

HERE IN THE PALMETTO STATE, PITMASTERS ARE TAKING TIME-HONORED TECHNIQUES AND PUTTING THEIR OWN SPIN ON OLD TRADITIONS.

If you've been cooking since the age of 11, chances are you'll find yourself creating new concoctions before long—and that's exactly what happened with the James Beard Award-winning Rodney Scott. **Rodney Scott's Whole Hog BBQ** serves up the classics in Charleston alongside starters like crispy pig skins in housemade rub and sides like a baked potato loaded with your choice of meat.

Speaking of new creations, how about barbecue with a Puerto Rican twist? That's the taste of **Palmira Barbecue**, also in Charleston, where Hector Garate uses modern techniques to put a twist on mouthwatering classics, resulting in menu items like arroz con gandules and pionono sausage.

Move from Puerto Rican to vegan at **Wholy Smoke** in Mauldin, which is heavy on the meats as well as the alternatives, like a jackfruit sandwich, meatless wings and even vegan pulled barbecue—and believe it or not, more than half of the 22 sides on its menu are vegan, too.

Vegan is on the menu at **Bobby's BBQ** in Fountain Inn, too, but here the jackfruit comes in tacos (or you can opt for pulled pork, brisket or turkey tacos). The jalapeño cheddar sausage is a favorite, as is the cheesy potato casserole topped with perfectly salty Ritz crackers.

At **Smoking Butt Heads BBQ** in Greenville, a spinoff of its owners' successful competition team, the flavors come in the form of egg rolls filled with collards, cream cheese, brisket and raspberry chipotle, as well as the Frog Man sandwich: prime brisket topped with provolone, beer-battered onion rings and SBH's sweet sauce. Prefer pork? Get the Frog Hog.

Who doesn't love barbecue favorites like fall-apart ribs, juicy brisket ... and Carolina Korean cheesesteak? That award-winning sandwich isn't the only surprise on the menu at **Roy's Grille** in Irmo, where you can savor SC Chef Ambassador Chris Williams' housemade tortilla chips and queso blanco with pulled pork or blackened chicken—and, of course, the house barbecue sauce.

The Pot Smoker BBQ has locations in Aiken and North Augusta, where it smokes mushroom caps for vegetarians and crispy wings for carnivores. Follow it up with something sweet: a Bomb Diggity Brownie, pound cake or buttermilk pie.

When you're in Pendleton (one of its four locations), stop into **The Smokin' Pig** for barbecue hot dogs topped with pork, coleslaw and a tangy mustard sauce with a side of jalapeño cheddar grits or Brunswick stew.

Texas meets South Carolina at **Lewis Barbecue** in Charleston and Greenville, where pitmaster John Lewis is cooking up "Texas hot guts" sausage (beefy, with a bit of pork and a hint of heat) and offering sides like cowboy pinto beans made with Tex-Mex spice and a green chile corn pudding. Daily specials range from smoked pork belly to Lewis' own Reuben.

More menu items that remind you of home can be found at **Big Mike's Soul Food** in Myrtle Beach, where classics like fried chicken and fish are complemented by fluffy croissant beignets and a collard green dip—and that's just for starters. Look for barbecue ribs and barbecue pig feet select days of the week.



Photos: (this page, from top) Lewis Barbecue, Charleston; Big Mike's Soul Food, Myrtle Beach (facing page) The Smokin' Pig, Pendleton



CLASSIC BBQ JOINTS

More of a purist when it comes to your 'cue? We've rounded up these tried-and-true spots serving up Southern favorites—and, of course, sweet tea.

Shuler's BBQ, Latta

With its fan-favorite buffet (here affectionally called "eat 'til ya hurt!" instead of all-you-can-eat), this institution hit the map after appearing on CNBC's *The Profit*. Pile your plate with lima beans, sweet potato souffle and, of course, smoked meats.

Midway BBQ, Buffalo

The "hash and chicken stew capital of the world" is where you'll find the lone remaining hash house in Union County, serving up beef hash all week alongside chicken, pork and other favorites.

Carolina BBQ, Spartanburg

A hickory smoke of up to 16 hours, then a dip in its Lexington-style red sauce makes the chopped barbecue pork the most popular dish here. Follow it up with the banana pudding—it's a must when it's on the menu.

Roger's Bar-B-Que House, Florence

Love for the ingredients as well as the diners they serve is what keeps the people behind Roger's going. Taste it in their fried okra, squash casserole and other sides piled high on barbecue, chicken bog or seafood dinner plates.

Farm Boy's Barbecue, Chapin

Secret family recipes are a staple in the South, and Farm Boy's catfish stew is a prime example of this time-honored tradition. Here, hush puppies count as a bread, so load up on chicken, ribs, pulled pork and sides like stewed tomatoes.

ICONIC SC DISHES

*How many
have you
tried?*

YOU MAY HAVE NEVER HEARD OF SOME OF THESE ICONIC—AND SOMETIMES UNUSUAL-SOUNDING—SOUTH CAROLINA DISHES, BUT ONCE YOU HAVE A TASTE, YOU WON'T BE ABLE TO GET ENOUGH OF THEM.

1 PIMENTO CHEESE

This vibrant spread of shredded cheddar cheese, mayonnaise and bits of pimento peppers makes all kinds of appearances: slathered on burgers, scooped up with crackers, dolloped on fried green tomatoes and even sandwiched on its own between sliced bread.

2 CHICKEN BOG

A soupy (boggy, if you will) dish of tender chicken, smoked sausage and Carolina Gold rice, all simmered together in a rich, from-scratch chicken stock and herbs, this hearty comfort dish is a classic.

3 TOMATO PIE

This savory summertime pie showcases sun-ripened tomatoes sliced and layered with sauteed sweet onion, fresh basil, cheddar and Parmesan cheeses and zesty Duke's mayonnaise (a must in the South!) within a buttery pie crust.

4 SHE-CRAB SOUP

This rich, creamy, pale orange delicacy is a bisque-like soup made with the sweet meat of female blue crabs (plentiful in South Carolina's Lowcountry), milk and heavy cream, crab roe (eggs), dry sherry, lemon zest and spices.



MAKE THEM AT HOME Make these Southern classics in your own kitchen with recipes shared from South Carolina chefs. Scan the QR code to see the recipes.



5 BOILED PEANUTS

Often called "goobers" or "goober peas," the official state snack is a satisfying, high-protein nosh. Stop at roadside stands, festivals and markets for this salty go-to that consists of raw, in-shell peanuts boiled in salted water—and sometimes flavored with seasoning.

6 FROGMORE STEW (LOWCOUNTRY BOIL)

This Lowcountry tradition that originated from the Frogmore fishing community on St. Helena Island is a no-fuss, one-pot dish perfect for large group gatherings. Simmer fresh corn on the cob, new potatoes, sausage and shrimp in a mixture of beer, water and seasonings, and dinner is ready.

7 HOPPIN' JOHN

A traditional Gullah dish also known as Carolina peas and rice, this flavorful blend of field peas, ham, chopped onion and rice is often served on New Year's Day to bring good luck—but it can be enjoyed year-round.

8 SHRIMP & GRITS

It seems like every local restaurant has its own unique twist on this classic, taking freshly caught shrimp and stone-ground corn grits (often from Columbia-based Adluh Flour Mills) and adding everything from Andouille sausage to fried okra.

EVERYONE HAS THEIR FAVORITE BETWEEN THESE TWO ICONIC SOUTHERN STAPLES. CAN'T PICK A SIDE? YOU DON'T HAVE TO—JUST ORDER THEM BOTH.

Cornbread or Hush Puppies?

HAVE BOTH!

CORNBREAD

Fluffy yet dense, moist inside with a caramelized crust outside, freshly baked cornbread is an art of balanced juxtaposition—and it's the perfect companion for rich Southern dishes.

WHERE TO TRY IT

Stone House BBQ, Slater-Marietta

Pair your spread of barbecued meats with a classic version of cornbread served with butter.

Wade's Restaurant, Spartanburg

Try a flavorful take with cornbread dressing (think stuffing) served with savory gravy.

Town Hall Restaurant & Bar, Florence

Order the "bread service" for fresh cornbread served with honey butter.

FARM, Bluffton

Savor Chef Brandon Carter's brown butter cornbread elevated with cane syrup and sea salt.

HUSH PUPPIES

Two-bite morsels of cornmeal batter deep-fried to a golden-brown crisp, these Southern delights are often served with some variation of sweet or savory spread or dipping sauce.

WHERE TO TRY IT

Henry's Restaurant & Bar, Columbia

Start with a small plate of hush puppies served with cinnamon honey butter dipping sauce.

Skull Creek Boathouse, Hilton Head Island

Sweet meets spicy at this waterfront eatery, with hush puppies paired with spiced honey butter.

Bistro 217, Pawley's Island

Chef Adam Kirby mixes Vidalia onion, cheddar cheese and jalapeño into his hush puppy batter.

Leon's Oyster Shop, Charleston

Pair an order of fried catfish with a starter of hush puppies slathered with honey butter.



STAY AND PLAY

AT LUXE GOLF RESORTS



South Carolina has hundreds of golf courses throughout the state (more than 350, actually), many of which have hosted legendary professional players and tournaments. Whether you're traveling with friends or the whole family, stay at a plush golf resort packed with amenities to please everyone. From crystalline swimming pools and beach concierge services to high-end shopping and even kids' activities, these are the places that make vacations a breeze.

At Wild Dunes Resort just outside of Charleston, golfers can choose from the Harbor Course along the Intracoastal Waterway or the oceanfront Links Course—both designed by Tom Fazio. And then there's all the other activities: fitness classes, a tennis center, treatments at the spa and salon, bike rentals and numerous pools—from family-friendly to adults only.

Revel in true Southern hospitality at The Sanctuary at Kiawah

Island Golf Resort, beloved for its lavish amenities. When you're not teeing off on the five championship golf courses, unwind in the Forbes Four-Star spa, play on the Har-Tru clay tennis courts, rent a beach cruiser to explore the island or lounge by one of the many swimming pools.

In Bluffton, Montage Palmetto Bluff is situated along the serene May River, offering a Lowcountry escape that feels like a world away. When you're not playing the 18-hole Jack Nicklaus Signature Golf Course, cast a fishing line in the salt marsh flats, explore the nature preserve via kayak or test your aim on the sporting clay course.

With its pristine beaches, maritime forests and luxurious resorts touting world-class golf courses overlooking the Atlantic Ocean, Hilton Head Island is a golfer's paradise. At Palmetto Dunes Oceanfront Resort, test your mettle on three challenging courses punctuated by



THE SANCTUARY AT KIAWAH ISLAND GOLF RESORT



WILD DUNES RESORT

Photos: (clockwise from top left) Montage Palmetto Bluff, Bluffton; The Ocean Course at Kiawah Island Golf Resort, Kiawah Island; Wild Dunes Resort, Isle of Palms; (facing page from left) Omni Hilton Head Oceanfront Resort, Hilton Head Island; Fripp Island

Photos: (clockwise from top left) Big Jim's BBQ, Burgers & Pizza at Palmetto Dunes Oceanfront Resort, Hilton Head Island; Harbour Town Clubhouse, Hilton Head Island; Hotel Domestique, Travelers Rest



PALMETTO DUNES OCEANFRONT RESORT/BIG JIM'S BBQ, BURGERS & PIZZA

South Carolina is home to more than 350 golf courses



sand bunkers, glittering lagoons and tropical foliage. Then head to the marina for dolphin tours and nature cruises. **Omni Hilton Head Oceanfront Resort** is also part of the Palmetto Dunes Oceanfront Resort Community, offering access to these courses designed by Robert Trent Jones, Arthur Hills and George Fazio. When you're not playing, relax with a massage or body treatment at Ocean Tides Spa, or wander the shops at nearby retail districts such as Shelter Cove Towne Center, Coligny Plaza and Village at Wexford. Boasting three championship courses—Heron Point by Pete Dye, Atlantic Dunes by Davis Love III and Harbour Town Golf Links (home of PGA TOUR's RBC Heritage Presented by Boeing)—**The Sea Pines Resort** offers plenty of playtime. The rest of the family will find lots to do, too, with pickleball, horseback riding, lawn games, beach yoga and kids' crafts.

Myrtle Beach's **Dunes Golf and Beach Club** is home to the 18-hole Robert Trent Jones-designed golf course that has hosted the likes of the PGA Senior Tour and the USGA Women's Open. Other amenities include tennis, pools and popular social events like concerts on the lawn and holiday cookouts.



THE SEA PINES RESORT/ROB TIPTON

Book one of the many vacation rentals—from sprawling homes to cozy cottages and convenient condos—at **Fripp Island Golf & Beach Resort** on St. Helena Island and enjoy access to two designer golf courses, plus a racquet club, swimming pools, a kids' summer camp and the nearby Camelot Farms Equestrian Center.

For a gorgeous Blue Ridge Mountains setting, head up to Travelers Rest to stay at the European-style **Hotel Domestique**. Guests have access to seven private golf courses in the area, including the parkland-style course at The Cliffs Valley, offering breathtaking views of surrounding mountains. Enjoy access to fitness amenities such as Ventum NS1 and GS1 bikes, cycling guides, an infrared sauna and complimentary use of Hypervolt Plus massage devices for muscle recovery.

EFFORTLESS

by nature



KiawahResort.com

855.998.7987

STORIED LIVE MUSIC VENUES

BY EVA MOORE

IF YOU WANT TO CATCH SOME GOOD VIBES

Try These: A Lowcountry mainstay, The Windjammer in Isle of Palms offers a beachfront setting and a jam-packed calendar of live music. Take a break from the tunes to play—or watch—some beach volleyball. Fun fact: Hootie & The Blowfish lead Darius Rucker has played here numerous times over the years.

Yes, the Icehouse Amphitheater is aptly named: It's on the site of a former ice warehouse. The town of Lexington has renovated its downtown area to include this destination outdoor stage, which draws local and regional bands.

With a stage that juts out over the Intracoastal Waterway, plus an on-site brewery and a stacked calendar of live music, the Landing at the Boathouse in Myrtle Beach is a

guaranteed good time. Every Friday is "Free Show Friday" and it's just what the name says.

IF YOU WANT TO SIT BACK AND ENJOY THE SHOW

Try These: Visit Circular Congregational Church to experience The Sound of Charleston, a live concert spanning music from throughout Charleston's history, including gospel, Civil War-era songs, jazz and more.

In addition to a long-running, star-studded variety show, The Carolina Opry Theater in Myrtle Beach hosts popular tribute bands and concerts by a variety of original country, soul and rock acts. In the winter, check out the beloved Carolina Opry Christmas Special.

How about a concert in a historic small-town opera house? Built in the early 20th century to feature

South Carolina is alive with music. From small clubs to big arenas, there's a venue just right for you no matter what kind of experience you seek.



ICEHOUSE AMPHITHEATER

THE CAROLINA OPRY THEATER

touring vaudeville acts, the Abbeville Opera House now offers a full calendar of live original bands, tribute acts, comedy and musical productions.

IF YOU WANT TO HIT UP A BIG CONCERT

Try These: To tennis fans, Credit One Stadium in Charleston is better known as a world-class tennis facility. In the off season, this 10,200-seat concert venue hosts big-name pop, rock, country and jam rock acts.

Greenville's premier concert hall hosts everything from symphonies to reggae, Broadway to rock. The Peace Center is right on the Reedy River in Greenville's thriving downtown.

Spartanburg's nickname is Sparkle City—and the lights sparkle at the Spartanburg Memorial Auditorium, a downtown concert hall that opened in 1951. It hosts a year-round calendar of live music.

Built in 1930 and beautifully renovated in 2010, Columbia's publicly run Township Auditorium is a mid-sized concert space that attracts a variety of music, comedy and theater acts. In earlier years, it hosted musicians from Duke Ellington to Elvis Presley.

IF YOU WANT TO TAKE IN THE LATEST COOL BAND

Try These: From reggae to electronic dance music to hip-hop, a diverse array of touring acts finds a home in Columbia at venues such as The Senate and the recently reopened New Brookland Tavern at its new, larger location.

Beloved by South Carolina musicians, Awendaw Green features a historic barn and lovely outdoor space hosting frequent concerts and jam sessions. It's located in the small fishing town of Awendaw, up the coast from Charleston.

IF YOU WANT TO HEAR SOME LAID-BACK OUTDOOR TUNES

Try These: Enjoy bluegrass in breathtaking surroundings at the Civilian Conservation Corps-built Gaines Lodge in Pickens County's Table Rock State Park. You can even bring your own mandolin and join the free monthly jams.

Relax on the lawn of the picture-perfect Mount Pleasant Town Centre shopping area while you enjoy free outdoor concerts at Live Under the Oaks each spring and fall.

Each fall, Greenville's Paris Mountain State Park hosts Music in the Woods, a free outdoor afternoon concert series. The stage and audio are solar-powered, and everyone is welcome.



Photos: (this page, clockwise from top left) Live Under the Oaks, Mount Pleasant; The Senate, Columbia; TD Stage at Peace Center, Greenville; (facing page from top) Icehouse Amphitheater, Lexington; The Carolina Opry Theater, Myrtle Beach



MASON JAR MAGIC

Bellews Country Store, Spartanburg



Belle's Bistro at Chattooga Belle Farm, Long Creek

COURTESY OF CHATTOOGA BELLE FARM

IF YOU BELIEVE THE BEST SOUVENIRS ARE EDIBLE, SEEK OUT ROADSIDE STANDS AND FARM MARKETS STATEWIDE, WHERE GLASS JARS SPARKLE IN THE SUN. WHAT'S INSIDE IS A TREASURE OF TASTES—AND A DELICIOUS REMINDER OF LOCAL FOODWAYS.

At Abbott Farms in Cowpens, where the staff knows peaches (and is known to share free samples), Carolina peach jam beams the color of sunrise. From McLeod Farms Roadside Market in McBee, sweet potato pecan butter shines as earthy-sweet, warmly spiced and imminently spreadable. Inside the kitchen of Old McCaskill's Farm in Rembert, local fruits from blackberries to pears are canned, beckoning for bakers to transform them into pies and cobblers. For the sweetest simplicity, visit McDowell Farms in Chesnee, where honey is harvested seasonally in small batches alongside strawberries.

Not every jarred treat is sweet, mind you. Across South Carolina shelves, you'll discover all manner of pickled and peppered produce. At

Bellews Country Store in Spartanburg, look for chow chow, a Southern-staple veggie relish homemade locally and canned on-site. At Mike's Produce of Newberry, try pickled okra, perfect for a Bloody Mary bar. At Chattooga Belle Farm in Long Creek, opt for apple salsa, a mélange of piquant peppers and the farm's apple varieties. (Or try some farm-made spreads with a charcuterie and cheese plate from the on-site Belle's Bistro.)

Ultimately, the magic is more than what's in the jar. At these stands and markets—mostly family operations, some more than a century old—you might pick your own fruit or gaze out over the farms and orchards that inspired your souvenir. And each crystalline jar preserves the experience along with the bounty.

MAKE YOUR OWN SC WELCOME BASKET

THE LEE BROS.
SHARE THEIR
PICKS



ABOUT THE LEE BROS.

Since growing up in Charleston, brothers Matt Lee and Ted Lee have earned their stripes as bona fide experts in Southern flavors. They founded The Lee Bros. Boiled Peanuts Catalogue (a mail-order business selling beloved Southern pantry items), hosted the cable TV show *Southern Uncovered* with The Lee Bros and authored *Hotbox: Inside Catering, the Food World's Riskiest Business*. We turned to them to recommend some of their favorite local mainstays to showcase Southern hospitality.



COCONUT SUKA BY BURNT & SALTY

Add a punch of tropical tang to pulled pork sandwiches with this coconut vinegar infused with flavor from Thai chiles, garlic, ginger and fish sauce.

"HO-LOTTA" AND "HISSY FIT" BY LILLIE'S OF CHARLESTON

This duo of mild and spicy Gullah-style seasonings adds incredible flavor to grilled meats.

ANDY'S CHARLESTON GOLD RICE BY WHITE HOUSE FARMS

Farmer Don Quattlebaum grows this long-grain aromatic rice in mineral-rich, peaty fields, resulting in a hearty, nutty flavor.

MOLE POBLANO BY SOBREMESA

Bring complexity and depth to your meat or veggie dishes with this sauce made of blended chiles, nuts, fruit, spices and a touch of chocolate.

20

ADVENTURES TO MAKE FAMILY VACATIONS UNFORGETTABLE

1 For adventurers 8 and older, hop in a boat with an experienced whitewater rafting guide from **Wildwater Rafting** in Long Creek. You'll get a thrill during the half-day Chattooga Mini-Trip, dip in natural swimming pools and stop for a riverside snack.

KIDS? TEENS? TODDLERS? NO MATTER WHO'S IN YOUR FAMILY, SOUTH CAROLINA HAS THE ATTRACTIONS AND EXCURSIONS TO MAKE VACATIONS EASY TO PLAN AND IMPOSSIBLE TO FORGET. FROM MELLOW RAFTING TRIPS TO INCREDIBLE ANIMAL ENCOUNTERS TO THRILLING ROLLER COASTERS, TAKE YOUR PICK FROM EPIC ADVENTURES.

2 Charleston's **South Carolina Aquarium** is the place to spot sea birds in the saltmarsh aviary, touch sea urchins and horseshoe crabs in the touch tank, and marvel at sharks and a 220-pound loggerhead sea turtle in North America's deepest tank.

3 At **Riverbanks Zoo & Garden** in Columbia, explore the recently opened Darnall W. and Susan F. Boyd Aquarium & Reptile Conservation Center, home to more than 11,000 animals.

4 With locations in Greenville and Spartanburg, **The Children's Museum of the Upstate** features play-based learning from early childhood development up to age 12. All exhibits are designed to be ADA accessible.

5 Situated on 18 acres, the grounds of the **South Carolina State House** in Columbia feature beautiful landscaping, historical



South Carolina State House, Columbia

monuments and markers, and the magnificent domed capitol building. Take a free guided tour to see inside the State House.

6 Gather the family in your private, fully enclosed, climate-controlled gondola when you ride the **SkyWheel Myrtle Beach**, an observation wheel that soars 200 feet above the beach.

7 On the South Carolina-North Carolina border in Fort Mill, squeal with joy on more than 60 rides and roller coasters at **Carowinds**. In the summer, whoosh down waterslides and splash in the children's area at its **Carolina Harbor Waterpark**.

8 Speed slides, mat racers, splash pad, wave pool, lazy river—you name it, **Neptune Island** in Hartsville has it. Reserve a shaded, poolside cabana and make a day of it at this sprawling waterpark complex.

9 With **Edisto River Adventures** in Ridgeville, grab an inner tube and float down the Edisto River. Your trip ends at their private sandbar, offering sand volleyball, cornhole, beach games and food trucks on weekends.

10 Bring your s'mores and camping gear to **River Bottom Farms Family Campground** in Swansea, where you can pitch a tent or bring your RV. During the day, enjoy kid-approved amenities like a swimming pool, playground, fishing, volleyball and an arcade.

11 Buckle up and drive through the plains of Africa right here in the Palmetto State at **Eudora Wildlife Safari Park** in Salley. You'll see friendly zebras, giraffes, ostriches and camels on this wild excursion.

12 Go for a little friendly competition at **Jurassic Golf** in Myrtle Beach. Water features, jungle foliage and animated dinosaurs keep things interesting on this miniature golf course.

13 Get ready for a swashbuckling good time aboard the *Black Dagger* with **Pirates of Hilton Head**, featuring a 1.5-hour cruise of face painting, a water cannon battle, singing and treasure hunting.



DOCK 'N' DINE RESTAURANTS

TAKE IN ALL THE ACTION OF THE WATERFRONT AT THESE FAMILY-FRIENDLY RESTAURANTS WITH KIDS' MENUS.



Fayz at the Lake, Manning

Enjoy waterfront views of Lake Marion while ordering easy options for kids like fettucine alfredo or grilled cheese with tater tots.

Angel's Landing Campground, Restaurant & Marina, Pineville

On the banks of Lake Moultrie, order no-frills meals like pancakes for breakfast and chicken tenders for lunch or dinner.

Liberty Tap Room & Grill, Irmo

Little ones will love the games on their menus at this spot, which features items like mac and cheese and certified angus beef burgers.

The Black Marlin Bayside Grill, Hilton Head Island

This lively spot along Broad Creek serves up fresh seafood on its kids' menu, from fish and chips to fried shrimp alongside filet mignon and fries.

HIKING FOR ALL

GET SOME FRESH AIR AND EASY EXERCISE ON FAMILY-FRIENDLY TRAILS IN SOUTH CAROLINA. MANY OF THESE TRAILS ARE FRIENDLY FOR STROLLERS AND WHEELCHAIRS.

ADDBESTOCK/JASON YODER



Congaree National Park features numerous trails rated as “easy,” including the 2.6-mile, wheelchair-accessible Boardwalk Loop Trail, which begins at the Harry Hampton Visitor Center and winds through the old-growth bottomland hardwood forest. Be sure to stop by the visitor center to check which trails are open (weather dependent).

At **Charles Towne Landing State Historic Site** in Charleston, explore 7 miles of paved and unpaved interpretive trails through the park. Enjoy park-style gardens blooming with thousands of azaleas and camellias, see animals in a natural habitat zoo and explore the original settlement area from 1670.



Riverwalk: Piedmont Medical Center Trail in Rock Hill is a scenic 5-mile (round-trip) paved trail along the Catawba River with beautiful waterfront views and resting benches along the way. After a walk, stop by The Pump House for a bite to eat.

Another riverfront trail, **Swamp Rabbit Trail** in Greenville is a 22-mile multi-use trail for walking and biking that passes by the Reedy River, city parks and an old railroad corridor.

VISIT GREENVILLE/FIREWATER PHOTOGRAPHY



14 Spend a day beachcombing, picnicking and exploring the maritime forests on St. Phillips Island—part of the state park system—during a naturalist-led eco-tour with **Coastal Expeditions Beaufort**, departing from St. Helena Island.

15 Ages 4 and up can attend the weekly public planetarium shows at **DuPont Planetarium** on the University of South Carolina Aiken campus. After the show, peer into the heavens (weather permitting) with the powerful Bechtel Telescope.

16 During June and July, older kids and teens can go on a guided nighttime loggerhead sea turtle walk at **Edisto Beach State Park** in Edisto Island for the chance to spot nesting turtles in the wild.

17 Soar through the skies (as high as 120 feet above the forest floor on the **Upstate Zipline at Keowee-Toxaway State Park** in Sunset. You'll ride 10 lines, cross one suspension bridge and explore nature trails for the full experience.

18 Take in sweeping views of Hilton Head Island when you climb to the top of the iconic red-and-white-striped **Harbour Town Lighthouse**. Then, learn about local maritime history at the museum.

19 Horseback ride along Waites Island beaches at sunset with **Inlet Point Plantation** in North Myrtle Beach. (For children 6 and younger, opt for a hand-led pony ride through the pecan groves.)



VISIT MYRTLE BEACH

20 Stand on an elevated platform with zookeepers and feed friendly giraffes at the new Jim and Janice Cordes Giraffe Encounters experience at the **Greenville Zoo**.



VISIT GREENVILLE

Wild.Life.

Connect with wildlife at the South Carolina Aquarium! Encounter thousands of animals, see the expansive Great Ocean Tank and explore the Sea Turtle Care Center™. Every experience supports wildlife in the Aquarium and beyond our walls. From education and fieldwork to conservation and animal care, your visit to the South Carolina Aquarium is fostering positive change for the natural world.

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DISCOVER
South Carolina



South Carolina
Aquarium

FROM THE SANDY BEACHES OF THE COAST TO THE CASCADING WATERFALLS OF THE MOUNTAINS, A PERFECT DAY IN A SOUTH CAROLINA STATE PARK IS EASY TO ACHIEVE.

A Perfect Day

IN SOUTH CAROLINA STATE PARKS

BY GWEN DAVENPORT



WHEN YOU WANT A HISTORY LESSON

Try This: Drive to Summerville to explore Colonial Dorchester State Historic Site. The trading town of Dorchester along the Ashley River flourished until the beginning of the Revolutionary War, when it was abandoned. Today, only a few structures remain. Explore the tabby fort, the old brick bell tower and historical cemetery. Walk the interpretive trail with exhibits that explain the history of the village, and if you're lucky, watch a live archaeological dig.

WHEN YOU WANT TO GET ON THE WATER

Try This: Head out to Dreher Island State Park in Prosperity with a boat in tow to enjoy sprawling Lake Murray. Whether you decide to fish, tube, swim or simply cruise, there are plenty of water activities for the entire family.

WHEN YOU WANT TO SEE FALL COLORS

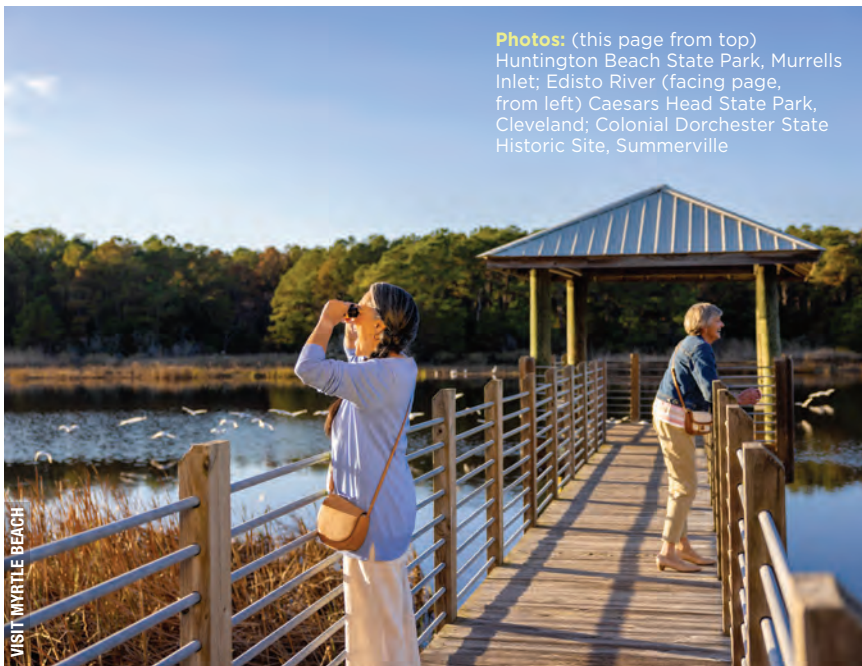
Try This: As the weather cools and leaves turn, grab your picnic basket and head out for the day at Caesars Head State Park in Cleveland. Venture to the overlook with your binoculars and camera for sweeping views of the Blue Ridge Mountains bathed in color. Take the short—but interesting—path through the Devils Kitchen, and if you're feeling ambitious, hike to the Raven Cliff Falls overlook for more autumn splendor and a waterfall view.

WHEN YOU WANT WATERFALLS

Try This: For an easy half-mile hike with some eye-candy at the end, the 60-foot Station Cove Falls, accessible from Oconee State Historic Site in Walhalla, is the ticket. Cool off in the falls before enjoying a picnic lunch near the park's main office. As a bonus, explore the historical structures of this once military compound and trading post.

WHEN YOU WANT LAKEFRONT CAMPING

Try This: With over 170 campsites, most of which are lakefront, Hamilton Branch State Park in Plum Branch won't disappoint. Pack up the camper for the weekend, fish just feet from your campsite and cool off in Lake Thurmond on your float.



Photos: (this page from top) Huntington Beach State Park, Murrells Inlet; Edisto River (facing page, from left) Caesars Head State Park, Cleveland; Colonial Dorchester State Historic Site, Summerville



WHEN YOU WANT A BEACH DAY

Try This: Wake up early, pack a lunch and your beach bag, and make your way to Huntington Beach State Park in Murrells Inlet for some early morning wildlife watching on the causeway. More than 300 species of birds have been spotted within the park, plus nesting loggerhead sea turtles, alligators and minks. Enjoy a leisurely day relaxing and playing on the beach, and then treat yourself with a scoop of locally made ice cream at Spoonbill's.

WHEN YOU WANT AN EPIC PADDLE

Try This: Two state parks flank the popular 23-mile Edisto River Canoe & Kayak Trail. Put in early at Colleton State Park for a 6- to 8-hour paddle along the Edisto River, the longest free flowing blackwater river in North America. Pack a lunch to enjoy on one of the sandbars, and experience beautiful Lowcountry scenery along the way. As you arrive at Givhans Ferry State Park, you'll see the impressive limestone bluffs that signal the end of your journey. Reserve a cabin or campsite to spend the night.

LAKE OF UPSTATE SOUTH CAROLINA

FROM FISHING TO BOATING TO SWIMMING AND PADDLING, THE LAKES OF THE UPSTATE HAVE IT ALL.



Deville Fork State Park, Salem

Deville Fork State Park offers the only public access to the clear, sparkling waters of undeveloped Lake Jocassee. Boat, paddle, explore waterfalls, camp or stay in one of the modern villas at this popular park.

Lake Hartwell State Park, Fair Play

Access Lake Hartwell, best known for its fishing, from the boat ramp at Lake Hartwell State Park. The park is also popular with campers, offering RV and tent sites, as well as camper cabins.

Keowee-Toxaway State Park, Sunset

Hike, camp, paddle or relax the day away along the picturesque shoreline of Lake Keowee. Feeling adventurous? Try the new zipline at the park that takes you over the lake for awesome views.

Sadlers Creek State Park, Anderson

Sadlers Creek State Park is best-known for its wildlife and is a favorite picnicking and camping spot along the shores of Lake Hartwell.

SOUTH CAROLINA STATE PARK

GIFT GUIDE

GIFT GIVING HAS NEVER BEEN SO EASY WITH THE SOUTH CAROLINA STATE PARKS STORE. NO MATTER WHO YOU'RE SHOPPING FOR, WE'VE GOT THE GOODS.



THE HOME COOK
"Gourmand" might as well be their middle name, so give them a gift they'll use in the kitchen, from cutting boards to ceramic mugs adorned with palmetto trees.



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SHOW YOUR
SC STATE
PARK PRIDE



THE GOLFER
A hole in one will never happen with the sun in their eyes, so give your golfer a sporty, adjustable hat before they hit one of South Carolina's many courses.



THE HOST
For the person in your life who loves having guests over, some festive home décor (like this holiday ornament) is sure to remind them of the beauty of the Palmetto State.



THE DIGITAL NOMAD
This person can work from wherever there's Wi-Fi (even from their "home office" in a state park or campsite), and they'll have this 100% cotton t-shirt to prove it.

LITTLE ONES
Give the kiddos a plush stuffed animal friend that reflects the lovable wildlife found in state parks, from white-tailed deer to loggerhead sea turtles.



THE NATURALIST
For the lover of flora and fauna, gift a field guide to help them better identify the unique plants and creatures that call South Carolina's state parks home.



Discover your own PRIVATE PARADISE

Nestled on the shores of St. Phillips Island, you'll find the only home on this 5,000-acre natural oasis. The Turner House is a five-bedroom, five-bath estate that was once the private family retreat for media magnate, Ted Turner. It's the perfect destination for exploring the island's pristine beaches, maritime forest, marshlands and wildlife. Reserve your stay at SouthCarolinaParks.com/hunting-island



THE SOUTHERN CAMPAIGN

THE TURNING POINT OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

BY DEVYN WHITMIRE



Revolutionary War Days, Camden



Cowpens National Battlefield, Gaffney

Raging from 1775 to 1783, the American Revolution was a period of scrappy rebellion—an uprising of the original 13 colonies and its hardy residents against the British crown—which ultimately led to the formation of the United States of America. Many notable battles took place in the northern colonies, but it was the conflicts in the Carolinas, fought in its swamps and marshes, its fields and mountains, that secured America's victory.

With the war in the north at a stalemate, and rich agricultural resources and rumors of Loyalists (colonists still loyal to the crown) awaiting them, the British forces set their sights on the Southern colonies. The Southern Campaign saw the British capture of integral port cities in Savannah and then Charleston, up along the coast to Georgetown.

Rickie Good, museum curator and director of the

Revolutionary War Center in Camden, says that this signifies when Camden became a “keystone” in the battle for the South.

“Camden itself—the city, the location of the town—is on a major trading route,” she explains. “If you look at the map of outposts that the British set up in South Carolina ... there’s an arc across the state, and Camden is in the center.”

Having already captured the major port cities, the British found Camden’s centralized location crucial for running supplies and keeping the war alive. Contrastingly, the Patriots saw the retaking of Camden as a catalyst of sorts to take back Charleston and eventually to eradicate the British from South Carolina.

What makes this time in history even more fascinating is the resilience that characterized the many South Carolinians,



FOLLOW THE LIBERTY TRAIL

Download this free app—a collaboration between the American Battlefield Trust and the South Carolina Battlefield Trust—to learn about South Carolina battlefields and the history that led to American victory in the Revolutionary War.



Fort Moultrie National Historical Park, Sullivan's Island

ADOBE STOCK/TAMAS

BRINGING HISTORY TO LIFE

With 35 years of service in the Marine Corps and years curating for museums, it seems fated that Kim Stacy happened upon a reenactment in Greenfield

Village, Michigan in 1982 and found a new calling. What he discovered was a tight-knit community passionate about sharing “the gospel” of the

American Revolution. Passion for learning is at the heart of every project that Stacy approaches, both for furthering his own and igniting the learning

of others. Now residing in Camden, Stacy spends his days researching, lecturing, portraying an 84th Highlander (among others) and putting on

creative programs in hopes that by planting these seeds of learning, he will inspire the next generation of historians to pass on the flag.

a melting pot of people from all backgrounds and walks of life, who played a part in it.

To Good, these people and their stories are what should motivate visitors and locals to prioritize exploring this chapter of American history in South Carolina.

With so many stories—more than 200 battles and skirmishes worth—within reach, delving into Revolutionary War history in the Palmetto State might seem overwhelming. When asked for specific sites and recommendations, Good herself quips, “It would be easier to tell you where not to go!”

A great place to start is the **Revolutionary War Center** in Camden, which tells the story of the Southern Campaign and the **Battle of Musgrove Mill State Historic Site**, which depicts another significant Patriot win.

Fort Fair Lawn in Moncks Corner is one of the most pristine, intact, original

WHEN ASKED FOR SPECIFIC SITES AND RECOMMENDATIONS, GOOD HERSELF QUIPS, “IT WOULD BE EASIER TO TELL YOU WHERE *NOT* TO GO!”

American Revolutionary War fortifications in South Carolina, if not the country, and the national park sites of **Cowpens** and **Kings Mountain** are must-sees for the impact their resulting victories had on the outcome of the entire war. Many sites also offer reenactments, like Historic Camden’s Revolutionary War Days.

While visiting the Palmetto State, walk the paths that were once trekked by Patriot and Loyalist soldiers. Visit the settlements of the men, women and children who lived this immortal period of American history. So many incredible stories have been preserved, and you can discover it for yourself in South Carolina.



ILLUMINATING AN INCLUSIVE HISTORY

AT THESE SOUTH CAROLINA PLANTATIONS AND HISTORIC SITES, LEARN OF THE LIVES AND LEGACIES OF ENSLAVED AFRICANS THROUGH TOURS, EXHIBITS AND INTERPRETIVE PROGRAMMING.

No story about the South's rise to wealth can be told without the story of enslaved Africans brought to its shores. Their skills, knowledge and strength powered the South's economic engine, and at one time, the Lowcountry was one of the wealthiest regions in the world due to its enslaved workforce. As North America's largest port of entry for the Transatlantic Slave Trade, an estimated 40% of all enslaved Africans trafficked to the continent arrived through the Charleston harbor.

Although a cornerstone of prosperity in the colonies and the fledgling country, the contributions of African Americans were largely overlooked for centuries. Many plantation sites focused primarily on the grandiose architecture and the history of the white families. However, an ever-growing list of historic properties are

telling a more complete story of the past.

Dating to 1670, **Charles Towne Landing State Historic Site** is South Carolina's first permanent English settlement site, where enslaved Africans arrived with European colonists who had previously established profitable sugar cane plantations in Barbados. The efforts of these enslaved people not only strengthened the area's economic vitality but also contributed to its defense against potential attackers. The site's visitor center museum chronicles this history.

The property now known as **Boone Hall Plantation & Gardens** in Mount Pleasant was founded in 1681 and became a major producer of cash crops such as rice, indigo and cotton. By the end of the 19th century, it was the leading supplier of U.S. pecans, due to its enslaved workforce. Learn

Boone Hall Plantation &
Gardens, Mount Pleasant



Photos: (from top) McLeod Plantation Historic Site, Charleston; Magnolia Plantation & Gardens, Charleston; Middleton Place, Charleston

about these people—their culture, traditions and stories—during the live presentation of *Exploring The Gullah Culture*, shared by true descendants of the Gullah Geechee people of the Lowcountry and Sea Islands. Then, explore the newly renovated Cotton Gin House, originally built in the 1850s for processing cotton, which today features a visitor center, gift shop and museum.

The 37-acre **McLeod Plantation Historic Site** in Charleston defines itself as a Gullah Geechee park for giving equal attention to the lives of the Europeans who established the cotton plantation and the lives of the enslaved who built and operated it. Through its tours, exhibits and interpretive programming, visitors also gain insight into the role of the free Black Massachusetts 55th Volunteer Infantry, the Freedmen's Bureau when stationed at McLeod, and the emergence of the vibrant Gullah culture so prominent throughout the Lowcountry.

In addition to historic slave dwellings, **Magnolia Plantation & Gardens** in Charleston offers programming that defines the contributions of enslaved Africans who built and operated the rice plantation and, subsequently, its expansive gardens.


Since 1991, **Middleton Place** in Charleston has featured a permanent exhibit called *Beyond the Fields*, displayed at Eliza's House, a Reconstruction-era African American freedman's dwelling. The focal point is a panel with the names of more than 2,800 men, women and children who were enslaved by the Middleton family. In addition, Middleton Place offers living history demonstrations of blacksmithing, pottery making and other skills of enslaved workers.


After extensive research with descendant families like the Henleys, Goodwins and Wigfalls, the **Redcliffe Plantation State Historic Site** in Beech Island interprets the lives and work of enslaved Africans who built wealth for one of South Carolina's governors. The park's interpretive programming discusses their roles from slavery, through sharecropping to eventually paid employment.

While these are just a few of the important African American interpretive sites in South Carolina, all of these historic destinations inspire discussion and reflection, and help visitors more fully appreciate the complex and often challenging history that led to the success of the American South.


PRESERVING GULLAH GEECHEE HERITAGE


For hundreds of years, the Gullah Geechee people have lived on the coast of South Carolina. The descendants of enslaved Africans, this group has preserved much of its rich culture, language, food history and traditions. Here are five ways to experience it for yourself.

 **The Gullah Museum of Hilton Head Island** maintains Gullah traditions, customs, stories, songs and structures.

 On Daufuskie Island, take the three-hour Gullah Tour narrated by sixth-generation native **Sallie Ann Robinson** to learn about her ancestors.

 Peruse authentic Gullah handicrafts such as heirloom-quality sweetgrass baskets at **Charleston City Market**, established in 1807.

 Savor Lowcountry specialties such as crab rice, oxtail and shark steak at the family-owned **Hannibal's Kitchen** in Charleston.

 Listen to acapella group **Ann Caldwell and the Magnolia Singers** perform Gullah poetry, spirituals and storytelling.



MUST-SEE MUSEUMS



The long-awaited International African American Museum (IAAM) in Charleston is open to the public, showcasing a poignant collection of exhibits and artifacts that immortalize a complex history of trauma and triumph. The on-site African Ancestors Memorial Garden notes the significance of Gadsden's Wharf, where an estimated 40% of enslaved Africans entered the country. Along with the permanent collection, see the special exhibit *Follow the North Star: Freedom in the Age of Mobility Throughout African American History*, on display from May 23–Nov. 3, 2024.

With a 4D theater, digital dome planetarium and observatory, plus extensive galleries with permanent and rotating exhibits,

the South Carolina State Museum in Columbia brings science, technology, culture and history to life.

Also in Columbia, the South Carolina Military Museum chronicles centuries of conflicts, from the founding of Charleston to modern-day deployments. See weapons that date to the 1600s, plus tanks, artillery and personal equipment.

At Patriots Point Naval & Maritime Museum in Mount Pleasant, board an authentic WWII aircraft carrier—the *USS Yorktown*—and explore the immersive *Vietnam Experience Exhibit*, which spans more than 2 acres and comes to life in 3D through holograms and a war camp set-up. Before leaving, pay your respects to soldiers who made the ultimate sacrifice, when you explore the interactive exhibits at the on-site Medal of Honor Museum.

For a stroll down musical memory lane, stop into Greenville's Sigal Music Museum, which houses hundreds of iconic and uncommon instruments—



Photos: (this page, clockwise from top left) South Carolina Military Museum, Columbia; International African American Museum, Charleston (2 photos); (facing page, clockwise from top left) Sigal Music Museum, Greenville; Elloree Heritage Museum, Elloree; Aiken Thoroughbred Racing Hall of Fame and Museum, Aiken



some once played by music legends such as Mozart, plus rare records, sheet music and special performances.

For visual splendor, wander **The Gibbes Museum of Art** in Charleston, showcasing four centuries of American works, including paintings, miniature portraits, decorative art objects and multimedia installations. Marvel at stunningly realistic botanical paintings at the special exhibit *Rory McEwen: A New Perspective on Nature*, available to view January 26–April 28, 2024.

To experience art of the automotive variety, ogle rare and exclusive BMWs during a self-guided tour of the museum exhibits at **BMW Zentrum** in Greer. Then, go on a behind-the-scenes guided plant tour to see how the “Ultimate Driving Machine” is made.

At **Elloree Heritage Museum & Cultural Center** in Elloree, delve into rural living of yesteryear in the recreated buildings, as well as with exploring tools from the era such as horse-drawn plows and an original cotton gin.



SC STORIES

Discover hidden stories of the past when you explore uncommon museums throughout South Carolina that offer a glimpse into local history.

Aiken has long been a hub of champion horseracing, and the **Aiken Thoroughbred Racing Hall of Fame and Museum** celebrates this legacy with photographs, trophies and memorabilia.

For more fast-paced thrills, visit **The National**

Steeplechase Museum in Camden to learn about steeplechasing, a thoroughbred horse race requiring equestrians to jump over obstacles. See the newest exhibit, *Women in Steeplechasing*.

For a look into the natural world, stroll the 70-acre

property at Hilton Head Island's **Coastal Discovery Museum** to learn about local plants, wildlife, early residents and modern cultural crafts.

Meanwhile, the **South Carolina Maritime Museum** on the waterfront in Georgetown displays

historical photographs, artifacts and model boats to preserve the history of this port town.

The town of Mullins was a hub of tobacco farming beginning in 1894, as recounted in its **South Carolina Tobacco Museum**.



THE PEOPLE AND PLACES OF

the Palmetto Porch podcast



SCAN HERE to listen to The Palmetto Porch Podcast episodes, available on Spotify, Apple Podcasts and Google Podcasts.

DISCOVER SOUTH CAROLINA PRESENTS *THE PALMETTO PORCH PODCAST*, A SERIES HOSTED BY DEVYN WHITMIRE. HEAR ABOUT SOME OF SOUTH CAROLINA'S MOST CHARMING TOWNS AND WHAT MAKES THEM SO SPECIAL, AS WELL AS THE PEOPLE WHO MAKE THEM FEEL LIKE HOME.



Brian Latimer

**Professional
Bass Fisherman**

Living in a small town just outside Anderson, Brian Latimer has seemingly endless access to incredible fishing—such as lakes Hartwell, Keowee and Greenwood, among others. “When I think about fishing, it’s almost always through the lens of competition,” he says. “You’re learning every time you go fishing. You learn a little more about your opponent. How are you going to apply this in the future?” Since his childhood, the Anderson area has become a magnet to other fishers and has become the host of high-profile tournaments, such as the Bassmaster Classic.



Robin Waites

**Executive Director
of Historic Columbia**

Born and raised in Columbia, Robin Waites is deeply invested in the city’s historic properties and the personal narratives of early residents. One of her favorites is the story of Celia Mann, the matriarch of a prominent African American family that settled in Columbia in the early 1840s. “She was able to navigate this very challenging social structure with what appears to have been a lot of grace but also a lot of might,” says Waites. The history of this entrepreneurial family—and of the rise of Columbia’s Black community—is preserved at the Mann-Simons Site.



Nat Bradford

**Farmer and
Landscape Architect**

A distant descendant of Nathaniel Bradford, who first farmed the highly prized Bradford Watermelon in South Carolina, farmer Nat Bradford is carrying on the family legacy, bringing back the near-extinct Bradford Watermelon from obscurity and into the hands of local chefs, gardeners and foodies. “The Bradford watermelon has a really thick, tender rind—which is great for pickling or preserves—and then the flesh is super tender,” explains Bradford. “We’re trying to preserve the end result (the quality, flavor, texture) of the crops that we grow, but bring some modernization to the process.”



Jamison Mady Kerr

**Director for
ArtFields**

A community arts nonprofit by Lake City Creative Alliance, ArtFields is perhaps best known for its annual flagship event: an 11-day art festival that transforms this small town into a robust gallery of works created by local artists. But Jamison Mady Kerr’s vision is to make Lake City a year-round art town, complete with studios, residency programs, workshops and classes. She aims to foster an environment “where there are artists living and working, certainly, but where more and more people are able to find their own creativity and use that for good.”



SWAN LAKE IRIS GARDENS, SUMTER

Visit the country's only public park to feature all eight swan species, and take in the splendor of more than 120 varieties of iris that bloom in late spring.

Botanical Beauties



◀ SOUTH CAROLINA BOTANICAL GARDEN, CLEMSON

At Clemson University, explore nearly 300 acres that are educational and free of charge, every day from sunrise to sunset.

PEARL FRYAR TOPIARY GARDEN, BISHOPVILLE

See a whimsical garden of forgotten plants and gadgets that Pearl Fryar sculpted to new life.

RIVERBANKS ZOO & GARDEN, COLUMBIA

Spot more than 5,700 varieties of native and exotic plants.

KALMIA GARDENS OF COKER COLLEGE, HARTSVILLE

Stroll amid camellias, rhododendrons and the gardens' namesake: *kalmia latifolia*, the mountain laurel.

EDISTO MEMORIAL GARDENS, ORANGEBURG

This serene spot is known for its signature roses and towering cypress trees.

GLENCAIRN GARDEN, ROCK HILL

Blooming pathways and greenspaces are accentuated by peaceful ponds and fountains.

THE GREENWOOD TOPIARIES

BY DEVYN WHITMIRE

Whimsical, herbaceous, lively. You'll discover the embodiment of these descriptors proudly displayed along the streets of Greenwood to mark the arrival of its signature event, the annual **South Carolina Festival of Flowers**.

This event showcases more than 50 topiaries (trees and shrubs that are expertly clipped and shaped), drawing people from all over to view the whimsical characters and scenes every spring and summer.

From a mermaid and a Jeep to local sports mascots and a zoo of creatively assembled creatures, each topiary is crafted and cared for all year. The living sculptures debut just before the main festival weekend each June, but visitors and locals are invited to admire them all season long.



SOUTH CAROLINA FESTIVAL OF FLOWERS

COFFEE SHOPS CAN CREATE A WINDOW INTO
LOCAL COMMUNITY AND CRAFT, ESPECIALLY
AT THESE GOURMET CAFES AND SMALL-BATCH
ROASTERS ACROSS SOUTH CAROLINA.

SOUTH CAROLINA COFFEE CULTURE



In Greenville, start your day at **Unlocked Coffee Roasters**. This minority-owned roastery and cafe specializes in single-origin coffee, including beans from the owners' native country of Colombia. Ask the barista for a recommendation or order a flight to savor a variety.

At **Little River Roasting Co.** in Spartanburg, ethical sourcing means organic, fair trade and farmer friendly. For you, it means small-batch roasts, the chance to talk coffee with fellow aficionados and an artisanal breakfast and lunch menu. The staff often features a roast of the week, so inquire before you order.

The fair-trade ethos carries over to **Genesis Hub** in Newberry. Select from fair trade coffees, teas and drinks featuring ingredients made in-house. Depending on the seasonal menu, that might include The Neapolitan, layering house-made strawberry syrup with fair trade espresso and cold foam.

In fact, you'll find from-scratch syrups on many coffee shop menus statewide. At **Florence's Bean Bar**, take your pick of house-made syrups from vanilla to caramel. Like the coffee, they're 100% organic.



Unlocked Coffee Roasters, Greenville

Piecewise Coffee Co. in Cayce keeps the flavor elevated with specialty coffees and teas infused with simple syrup, such as the honeysuckle latte.

Similarly, **Rock Hill Coffee Roasters** (in Rock Hill) serves up seasonal creations like the sage caramel latte. Ask about taking home a bag of their whiskey barrel-aged coffee beans.

And if you're looking for a festive take on your morning cup, **Cuppa Manna** is known for creating holiday specials (think peppermint-spiked warmers in winter). This historic Summerville staple also serves nitro cold brews, bubble teas and more.



Ice Cream Delights

When you dream of ice cream, do you envision a sun-kissed beach day? In South Carolina, ice cream conjures even more, including seasonal flavors and a nod to the State Beverage (check out our sidebar for more details). Dip into ice cream shops statewide for the latest scoop.

At **Sweet Cream Company** in Columbia, the vibe is small-batch and seasonal, curating an ever-changing menu. Embrace the elements of surprise and creativity when you go: Anything from white chocolate lavender to sesame seed honey pistachio could be on the menu.

Dillard's Ice Cream Parlor in Greer varies its offerings—but opt for a locally inspired flavor when available. Imagine crave-able Charleston sea-salt caramel or South Carolina Pothole: chocolate ice cream studded with chocolate chunks and ribboned with fudge.

In North Myrtle Beach, break from the shore to find the **Original Painter's Homemade Ice Cream**. Fans love this

classic for preserving Mr. and Mrs. Painter's recipes, and flavors from banana pudding to bubblegum.

Mama Rae's Ice Cream Shoppe in Pendleton welcomes sweet-seekers with rotating flavors such as Oatmeal Cookie Craving and Better Brownie Batter. See what's offered during your visit, then enjoy your selection in the cheery outdoor seating nook.

Pawleys Island is home to **Gilbert's Ice Cream**, where handcrafted ice cream builds a delicious base for frozen treats. When available, indulge in varieties such as bourbon butter pecan, or lean into local flavors with seasonal exclusives like peach berry cobbler: house-made cobbler with South Carolina blackberry swirls.

At Huntington Beach State Park in Murrells Inlet, cap your birdwatching adventure with a visit to **Spoonbill's Ice Cream** near the park's South Beach Access. Cool off with a cup, cone or ICEE.



HICKORY HILL MILK

SIP THE STATE BEVERAGE

Did you know? Milk holds the distinction thanks to the abundance of dairy farmers—and their impact—across South Carolina. For visitors, this promises hands-on, milk-mustache-making fun. At **Hickory Hill Milk** in Edgefield, pet calves, ogle tractors and sip milk on spring and fall tours. In Pelzer, hop on the **Happy Cow Creamery** trolley from spring through fall. You'll view paddocks and the milking parlor before sampling milk and ice cream (and maybe take some home from the farm store). Reservations are required for all farm tours.

Sweet Cream Company, Columbia

COASTAL FAMILY TRADITIONS

SOUTH CAROLINA IS THE SETTING OF FAMILY MEMORIES

From getaways on the beach to annual concerts, South Carolina brings back friends and families to its relaxed, picturesque settings year after year. Make your own tradition in the Palmetto State.

"My mother began our week at Edisto almost 20 years ago. My brother and I have continued the tradition. My two sons with their families join us. It's a week of eating, relaxing, laughing and catching up with each other. Traditions are important in this hectic world. I love slowing down for a week."

— Susan Wise Turner

"Kiawah Island is a destination that we've returned to again and again. Our first visit was when we were pregnant with our first daughter (who is taking the New York State Bar Exam tomorrow) and our next visit will be in 2024! Kids 2 and 3 are graduating from college and they chose Kiawah to be their destinations."

— Kathy Schoemick

"We visit Hilton Head Island every year! Over the last couple years we have transitioned to staying on the Sea Pines (Harbour Town) part of the island because we love being able to walk or bike to everything: dinner, shops, entertainment, activities, etc. Our yearly tradition is to see Gregg Russell sing under the old Liberty Oak tree. Plus the sunsets in Harbour Town are absolutely amazing!"

— Grace Scott

"For the past eight years, our family from upstate New York drives 16 hours and stays for two weeks on Folly [Beach], so our two sons on the [Autism] spectrum could participate in Surfers Healing."

— Robert Franz

"[In] Fripp Island, South Carolina celebrating our 50th wedding anniversary. We've been vacationing at Fripp for 29 years. Our favorite spot to spend vacation with our children and grandchildren."

— Marty Daley



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Photos: (clockwise from
top left) Pawleys Island;
Santee State Park, Santee;
Folly Beach; Edisto Island



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All Together Now

STUNNING SOUTH CAROLINA EVENT SPACES

BY KATIE MCELVEEN

VISIT GREENVILLE/VAN ZEPPELIN AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHY



Photos: (this page, clockwise from top left) Pretty Place Chapel, near Greenville; North Corner Haven, Lancaster; Charles Towne Landing State Historic Site



NORTH CORNER HAVEN

WHETHER YOU WANT TO GATHER YOUR GROUP IN THE CITY OR THE COUNTRY, NEXT TO THE WATER OR OVERLOOKING THE MOUNTAINS, YOU'LL FIND JUST THE RIGHT PLACE IN SOUTH CAROLINA TO HOST YOUR WEDDING, FAMILY REUNION OR SPECIAL CELEBRATION.

UPSTATE

There's a reason Fred W. Symmes Chapel near Greenville is often referred to as Pretty Place: set atop 3,200-foot-tall Stone Mountain, the rustic outdoor sanctuary offers a stunning mountain backdrop for wedding and commitment ceremonies.

Family reunions at Gaines Lodge in Pickens' Table Rock State Park don't have to end when the sun goes down: more than a dozen well-appointed rental cabins are located within walking distance of the historic structure.

At Arabella Farm in Sunset, chandeliers and an elegantly rafted ceiling elevate the rustic barn into a stylish space; winding pathways lead through the bright meadows and sun-dappled forest to gorgeous outdoor ceremony sites scattered about the landscape.

MIDLANDS

Events at North Corner Haven, near Lancaster, can sprawl over 5 acres of terraced lawn, formal gardens and orchards; indoor venues include a tin wellhouse, a classic (but fully climate-controlled) barn and farmhouse.

Located on a working Christmas tree farm, The Pines at Matthews Tree Farm in Batesburg-Leesville is known for its scenic wooded setting and rustic barn venue.

And at the historic Hampton-Preston Mansion in downtown Columbia, you'll find centuries-old magnolias, gurgling fountains, banks of greenery and a pretty gazebo on the grounds.

LOWCOUNTRY

Set on the banks of the Ashley River near Charleston, Charles Towne Landing State Historic Site is perhaps best known for its remarkable canopy of live oaks that ends at a perfect patch of green lawn. Two indoor sites, one modern, one historic, round out the offerings.

In Ridgeville, Natural Gathering Grounds is a woodsy retreat with its own riverside beach and dock.

COUPLES GETAWAYS

BY SEASON

BY EVA MOORE

Table Rock
State Park,
Pickens

▲ Fall

South Carolina is home to the gorgeous southernmost section of the Blue Ridge Mountains, which you can see from the Cherokee Foothills Scenic Highway—and each fall, the hills are alive with vibrant red, orange and yellow foliage. A romantic fall getaway wouldn't be complete without some agritourism, whether it's picking apples at Bryson's Apple Orchard in Mountain Rest (which apple variety is your favorite?), or visiting Clinton Sease Farm in Lexington, where you can pick out the perfect pumpkin and take a trip through the famous corn maze.

FROM WINTER BEACHCOMBING WALKS TO SUMMER NIGHTS ON THE PORCH SWING, SOUTH CAROLINA IS A ROMANTIC PLACE TO VISIT YEAR-ROUND. FIND YOUR PERFECT GETAWAY TODAY.



Newberry Opera House, Newberry

▲ Winter

At Magnolia Plantation in Charleston, camellias bloom each winter on the Spanish moss-draped grounds, a great place for an afternoon ramble. In Newberry, nestle into a comfy seat at the historic Newberry Opera House to catch some live music. Or, strap on some skates and hit the ice at downtown Greenville's Ice on Main. If you're not a good enough

Ice on Main, Greenville



VISIT GREENVILLE

skater to wow your partner, consider this an opportunity to hold hands as you get comfortable on the ice.

Brookgreen Gardens,
Murrells Inlet

Spring

Experience springtime in the Lowcountry with a leisurely bicycle ride along the **Edisto Island Bike Path**, which winds through the center of this low-key beach community. (Bike rentals are available from several local businesses.) If you're more the walking type, visit the expansive outdoor art collection and green spaces of

Brookgreen Gardens in Murrells Inlet, enjoying the American figurative sculptures, manicured grounds and even a small zoo. As for the animal lovers among you, is there anything so Instagram-worthy as a horseback ride along the beach with your sweetie? Based in Aynor, **Grand Strand Horseback Riding** offers guided rides even for beginners.

SOLO SIGHTSEEING

You don't have to be part of a couple to have a wonderful time in South Carolina. Solo visitors will find friendly people and beautiful sights throughout the state.

Check out the **Georgetown Food Tour** hosted by **Carolina Food Tours**, visiting three or four restaurants along the lovely Harborwalk while learning about Georgetown's history, architecture and Lowcountry cuisine.

With rotating special exhibitions and a carefully curated permanent collection organized by theme, the **Columbia Museum of Art** is an essential stop. Take an adult art class (leather tooling, anyone?) or experience one of the many gallery



tours offered by this beloved institution.

One of South Carolina's longest-running breweries, **Rockers Brewing Co.** is a Spartanburg hot spot. The downtown brewpub is a cozy place to take in live music and just-brewed beers.

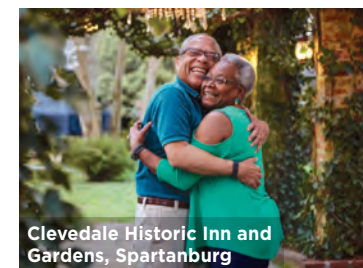
If you're an ocean lover, spot some marine life and get a different view of the Grand Strand's famous white beaches on the popular **Sea Thunder Dolphin Cruise**. These 2.5-hour tours are a fun, affordable way to get out on the water.

Summer

The ultimate romantic movie, *The Notebook*, was filmed at **Cypress Gardens** in Moncks Corner. Rent a boat and paddle through the atmospheric swamp—think cypress trees and drapery Spanish moss. When the summer heats up, pack a picnic lunch (or pick one up from **Swamp Rabbit Grocery and Café**) and head to downtown Greenville's **Falls Park** to watch the Reedy River spill over rocks. When you're done eating, amble across the spectacular 345-foot pedestrian bridge. Another great Upstate-area park is the 12-acre **Greer City Park**, which hosts free live music each summer during *Tunes in the Park*. Book a plush suite at **Clevedale Historic Inn and Gardens** in Spartanburg for the ultimate romantic retreat.



Cypress Gardens, Moncks Corner

Clevedale Historic Inn and
Gardens, Spartanburg

SOUTHERN HERITAGE & Cocktails

BY KATIE MCELVEEN



From backwoods moonshine to modern-day distillates harnessing the flavors of heritage crops, South Carolina's spirits—and the craft cocktails they create—have a storied past.

American vintners have made wine from America's native grape, the muscadine, for hundreds of years; after the Civil War, formerly enslaved Africans gathered the sweet clusters, made wine and sold it throughout the state. Today, Long Creek's **Chattooga Belle Farm** expands that longstanding tradition by transforming their annual crop into high-octane moonshine, aged brandy and even vodka.

Utilizing a near-extinct corn variety is just part of the interesting backstory of **High Wire Distillery** in Charleston. For their flavorful Jimmy Red Bourbon, the distillers use Jimmy Red corn, a blood-red heirloom variety once cherished by bootleggers and brought back from oblivion by South Carolina farmer and seed-saver Ted Chewning. Meanwhile, **Palmetto Distillery** in Anderson uses an old family recipe to craft its corn- and sugar cane-based moonshines.



MOCKTAILS ON THE MENU

Teetotalers rejoice: South Carolina's bartenders have mixed up an array of sophisticated, sans-alcohol cocktails that go well beyond club soda with lime. On Sullivan's Island, **The Longboard** took its cues from the tropics to create drinks like the pineapple-based You Have No Proof. **The Gin Joint** in Charleston might be known for gin-based creations, but its ABV-free drinks are equally impressive. Try the European Outlaw, which gets its smoky notes from Lapsang Souchong tea. In Greenville, **The Whale Craft Beer Collective** offers nearly two dozen alcohol-free craft wines, beers, ciders and kombuchas.

Tea is South Carolina's Official Hospitality Beverage and it's easy to see why: not only has it been grown in the state since the mid-1700s, but Summerville is considered the birthplace of sweet tea. In North Charleston, **Firefly Distillery** was the first to infuse vodka with locally grown black tea (and sugar) to create all-too-easy-to-drink sweet tea vodka.

Photos: (from left) Firefly Distillery, North Charleston; Chattooga Belle Farm Distillery, Long Creek



10 YEARS OF SOUTH CAROLINA CHEF AMBASSADORS

For 10 years, South Carolina Chef Ambassadors have embraced local ingredients and culinary heritage. Visit the restaurants of 2023 Ambassadors for a taste of seasonal menus and specials.

At **Indigenous Underground** in Abbeville, Chef Erica McCier amplifies Southern flavors. With an emphasis on South Carolina ingredients, she fuses influences to create flavor punches in dishes like chicken wings dressed in Buffalo sauce and Creole seasoning, or smoked gouda agnolotti with roasted corn and poblano sauce.

Chef Rob Masone roots the experience at **Kounter** in

Rock Hill in farm-to-table philosophy and local history. Reserve a seat at the lunch counter where Civil Rights Movement activists famously staged a sit-in, and savor Vermilion snapper tacos or Alderwood-smoked salmon with forest mushroom cream.

Step into 19th-century Paris inside Charleston's **39 Rue de Jean**, where Chef Marcus Shell transforms his favorite local ingredients into brasserie-style delights. Enjoy a multitude of textures in the king tide kale salad with microgreens, or go for the crispy pork belly, complemented by savory roasted tomato jam and spicy peach honey.



ERICA MCCIER
Indigenous
Underground,
Abbeville



ROB MASONE
Kounter,
Rock Hill



MARCUS SHELL
39 Rue de Jean,
Charleston

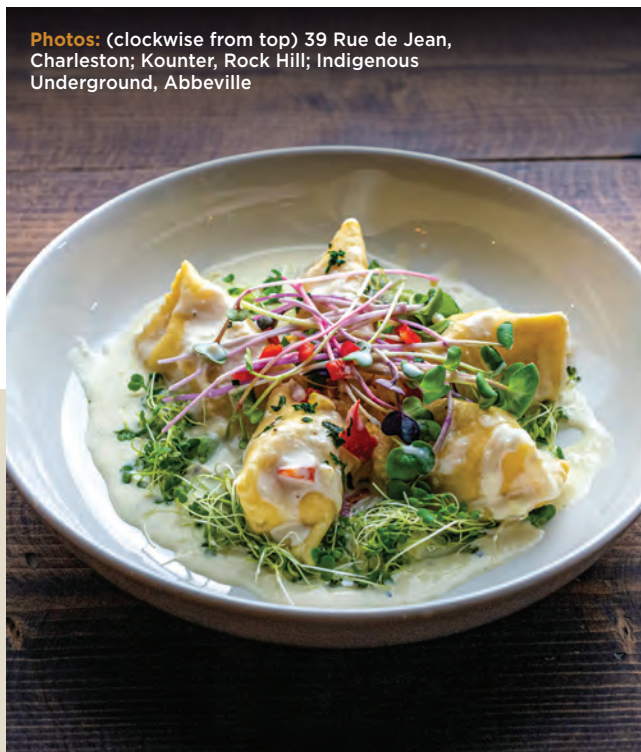


PASSION ON A PLATE

Get to know all our
South Carolina Chef
Ambassadors.



Photos: (clockwise from top) 39 Rue de Jean, Charleston; Kounter, Rock Hill; Indigenous Underground, Abbeville



FROM INTERIOR DESIGNERS TO FASHIONISTAS, SOUTH CAROLINA IS SWATHED IN STYLE. GET INSIDER TIPS ON SHOPPING, LIFESTYLE AND SOUTHERN SOPHISTICATION WITH THESE LOCAL TRENDSETTERS.

Southern Stylemakers



Charleston



Monique Weathers

Lead Planner and Designer for Firefly Weddings & Events

@fireflywed_charleston

As an events planner and designer, Monique Weathers has an eye for creating swoon-worthy settings, down to each detail. From beachfront vows to weddings in historic mansions, her celebrations make the most of the area's distinct charm. "This could include serving regional cuisine like shrimp and grits, offering signature Southern drinks like mint juleps, or including Southern-inspired décor," says Weathers. She also suggests Gullah Geechee traditions, bluegrass music or even a Lowcountry boil, which "allow guests to fully immerse themselves in the unique experiences the state offers."

MONIQUE'S FAVE BRIDAL BOUTIQUES

- Maddison Row South, Charleston
- The White Magnolia, Greenville
- The Bridal House of Beaufort



Beaufort



Logan Miller

Interior designer, artist and founder of Logan Elizabeth Designs

@loganelizabethdesigns

When it comes to Logan Miller's chic interior designs, you'll find a harmonious blend of traditional and coastal modern elements, from

cool blues and sandy neutrals to natural aspects such as sea grass rugs and linen drapes—intermixed with one-of-a-kind antiques. "Growing up in South Carolina, you're surrounded by historic charm, quaint small towns and beautiful coastlines that will take your breath away," she says. "The stories and histories contained in the handcrafted pieces across the south are a huge source of inspiration."

LOGAN'S LOCAL PICKS

- Mt. Pleasant Mall, Mount Pleasant
- Scout Southern Market, Beaufort



Greenville



Kelvin Davis

Award-nominated author, blogger and creator of Notoriously Dapper

@kelvindavis

The fashion icon behind Notoriously Dapper, a body-positive men's style blog that covers everything from fashion to skincare, Kelvin Davis

is a Columbia-based author who makes looking good approachable to the everyman. "Dress for functionality, but style it for your personality," he recommends—especially when it comes to the Palmetto State's balmy weather. "Wear shorts, cool fabrics and shoes that are breathable. If you sweat a lot, pack a bandanna; you can put it in your bag or carry it in your pocket."

KELVIN'S COLUMBIA PICKS

- ▶ Trenholm Plaza
- ▶ Revente
- ▶ ColaKicks



Black Tulip, Fountain Inn



Carlee Hoopes

Travel and lifestyle blogger, B&B connoisseur

@carleealexandria

Wondering where to stay on your SC trip? Carlee Hoopes has a few ideas. The bed-and-breakfast blogger chronicles her travels at picturesque

properties and has plenty of recommendations. "I'm constantly scouring locations across the state that reflect not only Southern hospitality but also the laid-back, timeless style of the South," she says. She even dresses the part, opting for "versatile pieces with elegant details. Dresses are my go-to in the spring and summer. They're easy to pack and perfect for hot weather in the South."

CARLEE'S SC STAPLES

- ▶ Black Tulip, Fountain Inn
- ▶ Westside Market, Greenville



Fab'rik at Trenholm Plaza, Columbia

EXPERIENCE COLUMBIA SO CRUSH RUSH

ALL FUN AND GAMES

WHEN YOU'RE IN THE MOOD FOR SOME FRIENDLY COMPETITION, ROUND UP YOUR FRIENDS AND FAMILY AND MAKE YOUR WAY TO THESE SPOTS THAT TOUT SELDOM-SEEN SPORTS AND GROUP ACTIVITIES.



With more than 160 disc golf courses throughout the state, South Carolina is a player's paradise. Frisbee fiends can show off their disc-throwing skills year-round at **Greenwood Disc Golf**, an 18-hole course sprawled over 85 acres of Greenwood County Park.

Or try your hand at one of the fastest-growing sports in the country: pickleball, a fun, easy-to-learn hybrid of ping pong and tennis, played in a compact space the size of a badminton court. **Odell Weeks Activity Center** in

Aiken offers equipment available for use, plus clinics, open play times and even a designated beginner's court.

For a backyard game elevated to a whole new level, head over to the official **American Corn Hole League Headquarters** in Rock Hill, which offers corn hole tournaments, league play and open play on the courts.

Looking to throw something a bit more... shall we say, cutting edge? Bring your friends to **Timber Ridge Axe Throwing** in Seneca for a session of throwing axes at targets. An on-site "axe-pert" will show you some basic techniques and safety tips before getting started.

A dynamic cross between nightlife and gaming, **Group Therapy Pub & Playground** in Greenville is made for grown-up groups. (Ages 18 and older after 8 p.m.)



Invite your crew for axe throwing, ice curling, 18 holes of mini golf, ping pong and duckpin bowling. The specialty cocktails and 30-tap self-serve beer wall will keep the party going long after the game.

Test your strength (and your bravery) on the indoor climbing wall at **Climb at Blue Ridge** in Taylors. This gym offers top roping, bouldering and lead climbing,

offering climbers of all skill levels a challenge.

If you'd rather get on the water, make your way to **Shark Park 843** at the North Myrtle Beach Sports Complex in Little River. Daredevils ages 10 and older can get a thrill as they try wakeboarding while being pulled across the water on a super-fast cable system. Or ages 7 and older can play on the massive floating playground and obstacles.



SAVE SOME GREEN

BUDGET-FRIENDLY GOLF COURSES

BY PERRY BAKER

South Carolina might be best known for its prestigious golf courses, but you don't have to break the bank to play a round on these courses.

EDGEWATER GOLF CLUB, NEAR LANCASTER

Architect: Bruce Brodsky
At 7,103 yards from the back tees, the challenging track offers slick bent-grass greens that are

elevated and protected by large bunkers. With no two fairways parallel, this track winds through a wooded landscape offering players a feeling of isolation.

HICKORY KNOB STATE RESORT PARK, MCCORMICK

Architect: Tom Jackson
With several holes running alongside scenic Lake Thurmond, golfers will

experience expansive water views and a surprisingly hilly course that will challenge golfers of any skill level.

CHERAW STATE PARK, CHERAW

Architect: Tom Jackson
Cheraw State Park Golf Course winds around picturesque Lake Juniper. Strategic bunkering and elevated, undulating

greens put some teeth in this relatively short—but thoroughly enjoyable—course.

WYBOO GOLF CLUB, MANNING

Architect: Tom Jackson
Play this true gem of a course nestled along Wyboo Creek that offers wide, inviting fairways and intimidating approach shots to well-protected,

small greens. This course has been named a top public track along with many other accolades since opening in 1999.

AIKEN GOLF CLUB, AIKEN

Architects: John Inglis, I.W. Fowler, E.G. Egererton
Opening in 1912 with 11 holes and later expanded to 18 holes by John Inglis in 1915, Aiken Golf Club has a long history. The Women's

Invitational Tournament brought storied names in golf such as Babe Zaharias, Patty Berg and Helen Detwiler to compete on a grand stage between 1936–38. The course became public in 1941 when ownership transferred to the City of Aiken.

Welcome Centers

With nine total South Carolina Welcome Centers throughout the state, travelers will find no shortage of Southern hospitality when they make their way through the Palmetto State.

CONVENIENT LOCATIONS

Eight Welcome Centers are located at key entry points along the state's border, plus the welcome center near the center of the state in Orangeburg County along I-95 Southbound. Find your nearest location and plan a stop during your road trip.

COMPLIMENTARY AMENITIES

These centers have comfort amenities similar to a rest stop, with restrooms and vending facilities, but they also come fully equipped with so much more: picnic areas, free Wi-Fi, coupons and deals for hotels and attractions, travel guides, brochures and, best of all, highly trained travel counselors to

assist with trip planning. See the sidebar to learn more about our local experts.

NEW TECHNOLOGY

The Welcome Centers are equipped with a variety of technology for guests to access additional information. Some centers include kiosks featuring Google Maps so visitors can print directions, while wall-mounted screens allow for self-exploration on DiscoverSouthCarolina.com/welcome-centers.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Visit during special events throughout the year, such as National Tourism Week held May 5-11, 2024. In the past, this annual event has included complimentary refreshments, coloring books and crayons, putting greens, beanbag tosses, shag and square dancing, and drawings for attractions and weekend getaways. Be sure to visit to see what's in store.

Fort Mill Welcome Center, Fort Mill



ASK AN EXPERT

Want to learn all about what to see and do in South Carolina? Stop by a Welcome Center to talk to a nationally certified professional who can assist you with accommodation and attraction reservations, trip recommendations and insider tips on how to make the most of your vacation.

UP-TO-DATE TRAVEL DETAILS

Travel counselors carry a tablet with a specially designed menu to access directions, Google, gas prices and weather, which allows counselors to quickly answer on-the-spot questions about rapidly changing information.

FRONT PORCH PROGRAM

The South Carolina Welcome Centers have partnered with local visitor centers across the state with our Front Porch Program. The participating centers undergo a certification process to ensure the information and service South Carolina travelers receive meet our standards. Stop by one of our certified Front Porch Program visitor centers today to get additional, local insight on undiscovered attractions.



ONLINE

Create the ultimate South Carolina adventure at DiscoverSouthCarolina.com. As you plan your getaway, connect with us to see how other travelers discover South Carolina.












@DiscoverSC @Discover_SC
#DiscoverSC



WELCOME CENTERS

Let our travel experts help plan your trip. Free booking available, plus free Wi-Fi. SouthCarolinaWelcomeCenters.com has complete hours of operation.

- 1 I-26 East at SC/NC line | 864-457-2228
- 2 I-85 South at SC/NC line | 864-839-6742
- 3 I-77 South at SC/NC line | 803-548-2880
- 4 I-85 North at SC/GA line | 864-972-3731
- 5 I-95 South at SC/NC line | 843-774-4711
- 6 I-20 East at SC/GA line | 803-279-6756
- 7 I-95 South at Santee | 803-854-2442
- 8 Hwy. 17 South at Little River | 843-249-1111
- 9 I-95 North at SC/GA line | 843-784-3275

-  Historic Charleston & Resort Islands
-  Capital City/Lake Murray Country
-  Lowcountry & Resort Islands
-  Myrtle Beach Area & The Grand Strand
-  Old 96 District
-  Olde English District
-  Pee Dee Country
-  Santee Cooper Country
-  Thoroughbred Country
-  The Upcountry
-  Lake Hartwell Country



HISTORIC CHARLESTON & RESORT ISLANDS

Turn to page 58 for more information on this region.

★ **Official Charleston Area Visitor Center**
375 Meeting St., Charleston
800-774-0006
charlestoncvb.com

Charleston Area Convention and Visitors Bureau
423 King St., Charleston
843-853-8000
charlestoncvb.com

★ **Greater Summerville/Dorchester County Visitor Center**
402 N. Main St., Summerville
843-873-2931
greatersummerville.org

★ **Kiawah Island Visitor Center**
4475 Betsy Kerrison Pkwy.,
Kiawah Island
843-768-9166
kiawahisland.org

★ **Mount Pleasant Visitor Center**
99 Harry M. Hallman Jr. Blvd.,
Mount Pleasant
843-884-8517
experiencecmountpleasant.com

★ **North Charleston Visitor Center**
4975-B Centre Point Dr.,
North Charleston
843-740-5843
visitnorthcharleston.com

Saint George Office/Tri-County Regional Chamber of Commerce and Visitor Center
225 Parler Ave., Saint George
843-563-8187
tri-crcc.com

CAPITAL CITY/LAKE MURRAY COUNTRY

Turn to page 64 for more information on this region.

★ **Capital City & Lake Murray Country Tourism Region**
2184 N. Lake Dr., Columbia
803-781-5940
lakemurraycountry.com

Batesburg-Leesville Chamber of Commerce
350 E. Columbia Ave.,
Batesburg-Leesville
803-532-4339
batesburg-leesvillechamber.org

Blythewood Chamber of Commerce
428-4 McNulty St., Blythewood
803-403-6796
blythewoodchamber.com

Columbia Metropolitan Convention & Visitors Bureau
1101 Lincoln St., Columbia
803-545-0000
experiencecolumbiasc.com

Greater Cayce-West Columbia Chamber & Visitors Program
1006 12th St., Cayce
803-794-6504
cwcchamber.com

Greater Chapin Chamber of Commerce
302 Columbia Ave., Chapin
803-345-1100
chapinchamber.com

Greater Columbia Area Chamber of Commerce
930 Richland St., Columbia
803-733-1155
columbiachamber.com

Greater Irmo Chamber of Commerce
1235 Columbia Ave., Irmo
803-749-9355
greaterirmochamber.com

Greater Lexington Chamber and Visitor Center
311 W. Main St., Lexington
803-359-6113
lexingtonsc.org

Newberry County Chamber of Commerce
1209 Caldwell St., Newberry
803-276-4274
newberrycountychamber.com

Saluda County Chamber of Commerce
120 S. Main St., Saluda
803-480-0249
saludachambersc.org

University of South Carolina Visitor Center
945 Bull St., Columbia
803-777-0169, sc.edu

LOWCOUNTRY & RESORT ISLANDS

Turn to page 72 for more information on this region.

★ **Lowcountry & Resort Islands Tourism Commission**
1 Lowcountry Lane, Yemassee
843-717-3090
southcarolinalowcountry.com

Beaufort County Black Chamber of Commerce
711 Bladen St., Beaufort
843-986-1102
bcbcc.org

★ **Beaufort/Port Royal Convention & Visitors Bureau-Visitor Center**
713 Craven St., Beaufort
843-525-8500
beaufortsc.org

★ **Edisto Chamber of Commerce**
42 Station Court, Edisto Island
843-869-3867
edistochamber.com

Greater Bluffton Chamber of Commerce
217 Goethe Rd., Bluffton
843-757-7070
blufftonchamberofcommerce.org

Hampton County Chamber of Commerce
200 E. Jackson Ave., Hampton
803-914-2143
hamptoncountychamber.org

Hilton Head Island-Bluffton Chamber of Commerce
216 Bluffton Rd., Bluffton
843-757-3673
hiltonheadchamber.org

Hilton Head Island-Bluffton Chamber of Commerce & Visitor & Convention Bureau
1 Chamber of Commerce Dr.,
Hilton Head Island
843-785-3673
hiltonheadchamber.org

Jasper County Chamber of Commerce
403 Russell St., Ridgeland
843-726-8126
jaspersc.org

Walterboro-Colleton Chamber of Commerce
209 E. Washington St.,
Walterboro
843-549-9595
walterboro.org

MYRTLE BEACH AREA & THE GRAND STRAND

Turn to page 77 for more information on this region.

★ **Myrtle Beach Area Chamber of Commerce & Visitor Bureau**
1200 N. Oak St., Myrtle Beach
843-626-7444
visitmyrtlebeach.com

Conway Chamber of Commerce

203 Main St., Conway
843-248-2273
conwayscchamber.com

Conway Visitor Center

428 Main St., Conway
843-248-6260
conwayalive.com

Georgetown County Chamber of Commerce & Visitor's Center

531 Front St., Georgetown
843-546-8436
visitgeorge.com

Little River Chamber of Commerce

440 Hwy., 90 East, Ste. 1,
Little River
843-249-6604
littleriverchamber.org

Loris Chamber of Commerce

4242 Main St., Loris
843-756-6030
lorischamber.com

*** Myrtle Beach Area Chamber of Commerce Airport Welcome Center**

1100 Jetport Rd.,
Myrtle Beach
843-626-7444
visitmyrtlebeach.com

*** North Myrtle Beach Chamber of Commerce And Convention & Visitors Bureau**

1521 US Hwy. 17 S.,
North Myrtle Beach
843-281-2662
northmyrtlebeachchamber.com

South Carolina's Hammock Coast

531 Front St., Georgetown
843-546-8436
hammockcoastsc.com

OLD 96 DISTRICT

Turn to page 83 for more information on this region.

Old 96 District Tourism Commission

204 E. Public Square, Laurens
864-984-2233
visitold96sc.com

Calhoun Falls Chamber of Commerce

401 N. Washington St.,
Calhoun Falls
864-418-8672
facebook.com/cfchamber

Edgefield County Chamber of Commerce & Edgefield County Peach Museum

416 Calhoun St., Johnston
803-275-0010
edgefieldcountychamber.net

Edgefield Discovery Center

405 Main St., Edgefield
803-637-4014
exploreeedgefield.com

*** Greater Abbeville Chamber of Commerce**

107 Court Square, Abbeville
864-366-4600
abbevillechamber.org

*** Discover Greenwood**

120 Main St., Greenwood
866-493-8474
discovergreenwood.com

Laurens County Chamber of Commerce

291 Professional Park Rd.,
Clinton
864-833-2716
laurenscounty.org

*** McCormick County Chamber of Commerce and Visitor Center**

100 S. Main St., McCormick
864-852-2835
mccormickscchamber.org

Ninety Six Welcome Center

97 SC Hwy. 34, Ninety Six
864-543-4820
ninetysixsc.gov

Tompkins Library & Edgefield Welcome Center

104 Courthouse Square,
Edgefield
803-637-4010
lasr.net

OLDE ENGLISH DISTRICT

Turn to page 87 for more information on this region.

Olde English District

P.O. Box 368, Fort Lawn
803-830-7286
oldeenglishdistrict.com

Cheraw Chamber of Commerce

221 Market St., Cheraw
843-537-7681
cherawchamber.com

Chester County Chamber of Commerce

109 Gadsden St., Chester
803-581-4142
chesterchamber.com



STEADFAST FACES REVOLUTIONARY PLACES

Did you know the state of South Carolina had arguably more Revolutionary War battles and skirmishes than any other colony? The victories of the Southern Campaign and the fortitude of the Patriots turned the tide of the war from a stalemate with the British to the development of America.

www.SCRevWar.com

**Chesterfield County
Tourism Office**

700 West Blvd., Chesterfield
843-623-6500
discoverchesterfieldcounty.com

**Fairfield County
Chamber of Commerce**

100 N. Congress St.,
Winnsboro
803-635-4242
fairfieldchambersc.com

**Greater Chesterfield
Chamber of Commerce**

100 Main St., Chesterfield
843-623-2131
chesterfield-sc.com

**Greater Clover
Chamber of Commerce**

118 Bethel St., Clover
803-222-3312
facebook.com/cloverchamber

**Historic Rock Hill
at The White Home**

258 E. White St., Rock Hill
803-329-1020
historicrockhill.com

**Kershaw County Chamber of
Commerce & Visitor Center**

80 Campus Dr., Camden
803-432-2525
kershawcountychamber.org

**Lake Wylie Chamber of
Commerce and Visitor Center**

264 Latitude Lane, Lake Wylie
803-831-2827
lakewyliesc.com

**Lancaster County
Chamber of Commerce**

453 Colonial Ave., Lancaster
803-283-4105
lancasterchambersc.org

**Pageland Chamber
of Commerce**

128 N. Pearl St., Pageland
843-672-6400
pagelandchamber.org

**★ Revolutionary War
Visitor Center**

212 Broad St., Camden
803-272-0076
simplyrevolutionary.com

**Town of Cheraw
Office of Tourism**

200 Market St., Cheraw
843-537-8400
cheraw.com

**Union County
Chamber of Commerce**

135 W. Main St., Union
864-427-9039
unionsc.com

Visit York County

130 E. Main St., Rock Hill
803-329-5200
visityorkcounty.com

**York County Regional
Chamber of Commerce**

116 E. Main St., Rock Hill
803-324-7500
yorkcountychamber.com

PEE DEE COUNTRY

**Turn to page 92 for more
information on this region.**

Pee Dee Tourism Commission

2513 W. Lucas St., #6, Florence
843-669-0950
peedeetourism.com

Bennettsville Visitor Center

304 W. Main St., Bennettsville
843-479-3941
visitbennettsville.com

**Dillon County
Chamber of Commerce**

100 N. MacArthur Ave., Dillon
843-774-0040
cityofdillonsc.us

**★ Florence Convention &
Visitors Bureau**

3290 W. Radio Dr., Florence
843-664-0330
visitflo.com

**Greater Darlington
Chamber of Commerce**

38 Public Square, Darlington
843-393-2641
darlingtonchamber.com

**Greater Florence
Chamber of Commerce**

238 S. Coit St., Florence
843-665-0515
flochamber.com

**Greater Hartsville
Chamber of Commerce**

214 N. 5th St., Hartsville
843-332-6401
hartsvillechamber.org

**★ Greater Lake City
Chamber of Commerce**

144 S. Acline St., Lake City
843-374-8611
lakecitysc.org

Hartsville Tourism

100 E. Carolina Ave., Hartsville
843-917-0602
visithartsville.com

**Lee County
Chamber of Commerce**

P.O. Box 187, Bishopville
803-483-2800
leecountychambersc.com

**Marion Chamber
of Commerce**

209 E. Bobby Gerald Pkwy.,
Marion
843-423-3561
marionscchamber.com

**★ Mullins Chamber
of Commerce**

100 N. Main St., Mullins
843-464-6651
mullinschamber.com

Williamsburg

Hometown Chamber
131 N. Academy St., Kingstree
843-355-6431
williamsburgsc.org

**SANTEE COOPER
COUNTRY**

**Turn to page 96 for more
information on this region.**

★ Santee Cooper Country

9302 Old Number Six Hwy.,
Santee
803-854-2131
santecoopercountry.org

**★ Berkeley County
Chamber of Commerce
& Visitor Bureau**

1004 Old US Hwy. 52,
Moncks Corner
843-761-8238
berkeleysc.org

**Berkeley County
Tourism Department**

1003 Hwy. 52, Moncks Corner
843-719-4995
visitberkeleysc.com

**Clarendon County
Chamber of Commerce**

19 N. Brooks St., Manning
803-435-4405
clarendoncounty.com

**★ Greater Sumter
Chamber of Commerce**

32 E. Calhoun St., Sumter
803-775-1231
sumterchamber.com

**Orangeburg County
Chamber of Commerce**

155 Riverside Dr., Orangeburg
803-534-6821
orangeburgchamber.com

Swan Lake Visitors Center

822 W. Liberty St., Sumter
803-436-2640
sumtersc.gov/community/
swanlake

**Town of Santee
Tourism Office**

176 Brooks Blvd., Santee
803-854-2152
santeetourism.com

**★ Tri-County Regional
Chamber of Commerce**

225 N. Parler Ave., St. George
843-563-8187
www.tri-crcc.com

**THOROUGHbred
COUNTRY**

**Turn to page 100 for more
information on this region.**

Thoroughbred Country

2748 Wagener Rd., Aiken
803-649-7981
tbredcountry.org

**★ Aiken County
Visitors Center**

133 Laurens St. N.W., Aiken
803-642-7557
discoveraikencounty.com

**Aiken Visitors Center
and Train Museum**

406 Park Ave. S.E., Aiken
803-293-7846
visitaikensc.com

**Bamberg County
Chamber of Commerce**

604 Airport Rd., Bamberg
803-245-4427
bambergcountychamber.org

**Southern Palmetto
Regional Chamber**

218 Main St., Barnwell
803-259-7446
southernpalmettoregional
chamber.org

**North Augusta
Chamber of Commerce**

406 West Ave., North Augusta
803-279-2323
northaugustachamber.org

THE UPCOUNTRY & LAKE HARTWELL COUNTRY

Turn to page 103 for more information on this region.

Discover Upcountry Carolina Association

500 E. North St., Greenville
864-233-2690
upcountrysc.com

Lake Hartwell Country

120 History Lane, Pendleton
864-646-3782
lakehartwellcountry.com

Anderson Area

Chamber of Commerce
129 N. Main St., Anderson
864-226-3454
andersonscchamber.com

* Anderson Convention & Visitors Bureau - Visit Anderson

110 Federal St., Anderson
864-716-3660
visitanderson.com

Cherokee County

Chamber of Commerce
225 S. Limestone St., Gaffney
864-489-5721
cherokeechamber.org

Clemson Area Chamber of Commerce & Visitors Center

1105 Tiger Blvd., Clemson
864-654-1200
visitclemson.com

Clemson University Visitors Center

109 Daniel Dr., Clemson
864-656-4789
clemson.edu/visitors/index.html

Fountain Inn Chamber of Commerce

102 Depot St., Fountain Inn
864-862-2586
fountaininnchamber.org

* Gaffney Visitors Center

210 W. Frederick St., Gaffney
864-487-6244
getintogaffney.com

Greater Easley Chamber of Commerce

2001 E. Main St., Easley
864-859-2693
easleychamber.org

Greater Greenville Chamber of Commerce

24 Cleveland St., Greenville
864-242-1050
greenvillechamber.org

* Greater Mauldin Chamber of Commerce

101 E. Butler Rd., Mauldin
864-297-1323
mauldinchamber.org

Oconee County Chamber of Commerce

2 Leas Courtyard Dr., Seneca
864-882-2097
oconeechambersc.com

* Pickens Visitor Center

222 W. Main St., Pickens
864-878-3258
explorepickens.com

Greenville - Spartanburg Airport Customer Service Desk

2000 GSP Dr., Greer
864-877-7426
gspairport.com

* Greenville Downtown Visitors Center

206 S. Main St., Greenville
864-233-0461
visitgreenvillesc.com

Inman Chamber of Commerce

P.O. Box 227, Inman
864-472-3654
inmanscchamber.org

* Simpsonville Area Chamber of Commerce

105 Curtis St., Ste. A, Simpsonville
864-963-3781
simpsonvillechamber.com

Spartanburg Convention & Visitors Bureau

105 N. Pine St., Spartanburg
864-594-5000
visitspartanburg.com

* Town of Pendleton

310 Greenville St., Pendleton
864-646-9409
townofpendleton.org

* Visit Oconee SC

105 W. South Broad St., Walhalla
800-910-4371
visitoconeesc.com

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REGION

HISTORIC CHARLESTON & RESORT ISLANDS

As one of the country's most beautifully preserved architectural treasures, the historic city of Charleston features cobblestone streets, pastel mansions with lacy wrought iron balconies, homes turned museums and grand hotels. Just outside downtown, award-winning golf courses overlook the Atlantic Ocean, stately plantations hold centuries of stories, and the laid-back sea islands beckon with sandy beaches and casual dock-and-dine eateries.



Pineapple Fountain at Joe Riley Waterfront Park, Charleston



REGIONAL MUST-SEES

Old South Carriage Co., Charleston | Folly Beach, Folly Beach | Tidal Wave Water Sports, Isle of Palms
Freshfields Village, Kiawah Island | Patriots Point Naval & Maritime Museum, Mount Pleasant | Tanger Outlets Charleston, North Charleston
Seabrook Beach, Seabrook Island | Fort Moultrie National Historical Park, Sullivan's Island | Colonial Dorchester State Historic Site, Summerville

5 ways to tour

1 Gullah Geechee Tours

Discover Charleston's vibrant Gullah Geechee community with a historian-led tour. Choose from a variety of tour options and discover the rich history and culture of these descendants of enslaved people brought from West Africa's rice-growing region.

2 Historic Summerville Downtown Walking Tour

Embark on a self-guided walking tour through the streets of historic Summerville. Discover the town's well-preserved architecture, beautiful gardens and quaint shops.

3 Morris Island Lighthouse Tour with Charleston Outdoor Adventures

Hop aboard a guided boat tour and journey into the ocean waves. Marvel at the picturesque lighthouse and take in stunning views of the coastline.

4 Kayak Tour with Flipper Finders

Embark on a thrilling kayak tour around Folly Beach. Explore lush marshes, spot wildlife and learn about the coastal ecosystem from knowledgeable guides.

5 Brewery Tour at Holy City Brewing

Take a behind-the-scenes, free brewery tour to learn about the beer-making process, and then sample a variety of craft brews.

Morris Island Lighthouse, Folly Beach

YOU'LL
REMEMBER
THE DAY
HE DREAMED
THIS BIG

PATRIOTS POINT
NAVAL & MARITIME
MUSEUM

PatriotsPoint.org

DISCOVER
South Carolina

USS Yorktown | USS Laffey | Vietnam Experience | 26 Military Aircraft

Discover Riverfront Park

DARIUS'S HOME FOR RIVERFRONT REVIVAL



Visit
NORTH
CHARLESTON



VisitNorthCharleston.com

DISCOVER
South Carolina

SPONSORED CONTENT

MAKE THE MOST OF THE COAST IN MOUNT PLEASANT

1 OLD VILLAGE HISTORIC DISTRICT & PITT STREET BRIDGE

Step into the Old Village Historic District and Pitt Street Bridge to transport yourself back into what the earliest days of Mount Pleasant looked like.

OldVillageDistrict.com

2 SHEM CREEK BOARDWALKS & WATERFRONT DISTRICT

Stroll along the 3,000 feet of boardwalks, paddle your way through the surrounding waterways, and watch for dolphins to find yourself in paradise at Shem Creek.

ExperienceMountPleasant.com/waterfront-at-shem-creek

3 PATRIOTS POINT NAVAL & MARITIME MUSEUM

Walk in the footsteps of United States military heroes, spanning from WWII to the Vietnam War, while exploring the museum, 28 aircraft and three ships.

Contact: 843-884-2727

PatriotsPoint.org

4 SWEETGRASS CULTURAL ARTS PAVILION & BASKET MAKERS HIGHWAY

Discover the Gullah Geechee art of sweetgrass basket weaving at this pavilion at Mount Pleasant Memorial Waterfront Park. Drive on North Highway 17 where makers set up shops.

ExperienceMountPleasant.com/live_like_a_local/sweetgrass-baskets-mount-pleasant-tradition/

5 BOONE HALL PLANTATION & GARDENS

Explore one of America's oldest working farms where you can delve into the history of the plantation with a variety of presentations, tours and exhibits.

Contact: 843-884-4371

BooneHallPlantation.com

MORE INFORMATION

Town of Mount Pleasant
843-884-8517
ExperienceMountPleasant.com/welcome



1



2



3



4



5



Est.

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CHARLESTON.
I'M HER YOUNGER
SISTER.

1847

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South Carolina

LOCATION IS EVERYTHING

The azaleas are amazing, the shrimp are scrumptious, and Rainbow Row is real. Come see it all from historic Summerville—the center of your Lowcountry experience.

visitsummerville.com



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Connecting with the past. Inspiring the future.

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4300 Ashley River Road Charleston, South Carolina 29414 (843) 556-6020 middletonplace.org

CHARLESTON

South Carolina

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FREE trip
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If These Trees Could Talk

Recognized as the #1 Plantation in the Charleston Area by USA TODAY 10BEST
In a time of soul searching and reflection Boone Hall remains committed to telling the full story



You see it. You feel it. Spanish moss grows on giant live oaks, swaying gently in the coastal breeze.

And if you listen closely, you might even hear the whispers of over 300 years of history, beauty, and grace. The Avenue of Oaks at Boone Hall Plantation transports you back in time to an era gone, but never forgotten.

The diversity of what is presented at this iconic venue has propelled Boone Hall to the forefront as one of the most famous plantations in the world and “a must see on any trip to Charleston,” according to *NBC Daytime* television.

Boone Hall is no stranger to Hollywood either. It was a production location for the famous TV miniseries *North and South*, *The Notebook*, *American Idol*, and others.



*“Exploring The Gullah Culture”
True descendants of the Gullah people share this unique culture through one-of-a-kind live presentations that are educational, entertaining, and according to visitors, also very moving and spiritually uplifting.*

INCLUDED WITH ADMISSION

- Entrance down the famous Avenue Of Oaks
- Exploring The Gullah Culture Live Presentation
- Farm and Nature Wagon Tour
- NEW - Gin House Museum & Gift Shop
- Black History In America Exhibit
- Enslaved History Presentation
- House and Garden Tours
- NEW - Stable Tour

Boone Hall Plantation

1235 Long Point Rd., Mount Pleasant, SC
843.884.4371 | boonehallplantation.com

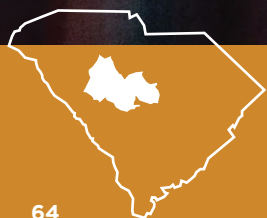


REGION

CAPITAL CITY/LAKE MURRAY COUNTRY

From enclaves of art galleries and the energetic nightlife districts of South Carolina's capital city to nature trails winding through old-growth forests and lakefront adventures—plus three scenic rivers running through it all—this region seamlessly blends big city culture and outdoor pursuits. See where historic buildings are living new lives as trendy restaurants and breweries, and where quiet tree-lined streets lead you through welcoming neighborhoods.

Congaree National Park, Hopkins



REGIONAL MUST-SEES Timmerman Trail, Cayce | Lake Murray, Chapin | Riverbanks Zoo & Botanical Garden, Columbia
Harbison Theatre at Midlands Technical College, Irmo | Congaree National Park, Hopkins | Mercer House Winery, Lexington
Big Mans Marina, Leesville | Newberry Opera House, Newberry | Old Mill Antique Mall, West Columbia

Capital City
Lake Murray Country



— This is the Place
to Stay and Play! —



Explore the Top Southern Destination (Forbes, 2021) for world-class fishing, golf, dining, outdoor recreation, and more! Check out itineraries that are perfect for the whole family, from grandparent's day trips to a girl's night on the town. Plan your **#playcation** in Capital City/Lake Murray Country! LakeMurrayCountry.com



SCAN ME



Capital City
Lake Murray
Country

DISCOVER
South Carolina

Featured Event:

Don't Miss Out on the inaugural
Southeastern BBQ Showdown.
Save the Date! ➡

The poster for the Southeastern BBQ Showdown features a vibrant design with a green and blue color scheme. At the top, the event name 'SOUTHEASTERN BBQ Showdown' is written in a stylized font, with a flame icon above 'BBQ'. Below this, the dates 'June 14-15 2024' are prominently displayed in a large, white, cursive font. To the right, a yellow box with a blue border contains the text '1ST IN THE USA'. The background includes an image of Segra Park at night with fireworks. Below the dates, a text box states: 'This 2-day ticketed event will mark the first food sport competition held in a sports stadium in the USA!'. The location 'Segra Park' is listed, along with 'Home of the Columbia, SC Fireflies' and the address '1640 Freed Street | Columbia, SC 29201'. The website 'SoutheasternBBQShowdown.com' is provided. At the bottom, it says 'Follow the event on Social Media for announcements including the Country Music Concert artist, Celebrity Judges, and more!' with icons for Facebook and Instagram. The event is presented by 'Capital City Lake Murray Country' and the 'REGIONAL TOURISM BOARD'.

SOUTHEASTERN BBQ Showdown

June 14-15 2024

1ST IN THE USA

This 2-day ticketed event will mark the first food sport competition held in a sports stadium in the USA!

Segra Park
Home of the Columbia, SC Fireflies
1640 Freed Street | Columbia, SC 29201

SoutheasternBBQShowdown.com

Follow the event on Social Media for announcements including the Country Music Concert artist, Celebrity Judges, and more!

PRESENTED BY **Capital City Lake Murray Country** REGIONAL TOURISM BOARD



Adventure is closer
than you think.

**RIVERBANKS
ZOO & GARDEN**
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RIVERBANKS.ORG

Water Adventures

In warm weather months, locals and visitors alike love tubing on the flowing Lower Saluda River. Walk up to the window at **Palmetto Outdoor** in West Columbia and rent a tube to find your own flow. Ride the rapids for the three-hour float, then hop on the shuttle back to your car.

Retreat to a world of giants in Congaree National Park, where towering “champion” trees (the largest known tree of a particular species) provide a shaded canopy over the blackwater Cedar Creek. Book a three-hour guided kayak tour with **Carolina Outdoor Adventures**, and keep an eye out for birds, wild boar and otters as you paddle.

Have a whole group? Make a day of it on Lake Murray, “the jewel of South Carolina” with a captained pontoon boat rental offered by **Pontoon Rentals & Tours** in Lexington. Lounge on the deck to catch some sun, hop in the lake and, when you’re hungry, have the captain dock-and-dine at one of the lakefront restaurants.

Spirit of Lake Murray in Leesville also offers public and private cruises on Lake Murray. During summer months (July–August), don’t miss the Purple Martin Tour to ride to the Bomb Island area at sunset to see swarms of thousands of migratory swallows swirling through the evening sky.

This area
is plentiful in
water activities,
so take your
pick of fun in
the sun.



Saluda River

ANNUAL OKTOBERFEST
First Saturday in October



Find Yourself A World Away

Shop our fine boutiques and galleries. Dine at one of our many restaurants. Stroll our historic downtown streets. Explore the newly restored Japanese Garden. Experience world-class entertainment at the Newberry Opera House.

Visit Newberry for our Annual Oktoberfest—First Saturday in October.

VisitNewberrySC.com


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DISCOVER
South Carolina



EAT YOUR WAY THROUGH COLUMBIA SC

Did you know that the first published recipe for pimento cheese is from Columbia SC? Here we serve this Southern staple in so many unique and delicious ways that we created a Pimento Cheese Passport so you can dig in. Inside you'll find an abundance of standout bars and restaurants, each serving up a new take on the flavor of pimento cheese. From traditional to topped on a pizza and more, show off your appreciation for our Southern delicacy and we'll return the favor with rewards and prizes!

DISCOVER
South Carolina



SCAN TO
LEARN MORE



PimentoCheesePassport.com

SPONSORED CONTENT

EXPERIENCE COLUMBIA SC

1 RIVERBANKS ZOO & GARDEN

Nationally recognized, this 170-acre oasis is home to over 3,000 animals, a State Botanical Garden, treetop zip lines and a kids' splash pad at Waterfall Junction.

Contact: 803-779-8717
Riverbanks.org

2 HISTORIC COLUMBIA

The preserved house museums, with more than 6,500 housed artifacts, honor SC's rich history and are available for self-declared historians to view and admire daily.

Contact: 803-252-7742
HistoricColumbia.org

3 COLUMBIA MUSEUM OF ART

On Main Street, the impressive Columbia Museum of Art houses one of the Southeast's largest international permanent collections, plus traveling shows and exhibitions.

Contact: 803-799-2810
ColumbiaMuseum.org

4 SOUTH CAROLINA STATE MUSEUM

The most comprehensive museum in the state, and the largest in the Southeast, this sprawling attraction houses four floors of permanent and changing exhibits.

Contact: 803-898-4921
SCMuseum.org

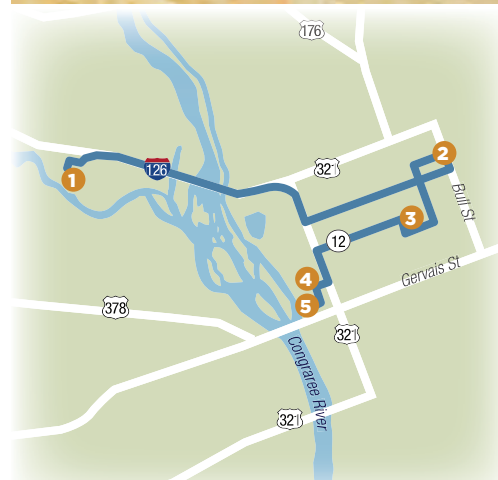
5 EDVENTURE CHILDREN'S MUSEUM

As the South's largest children's museum, this interactive, educational institution boasts hands-on art and science experiences, 300 exhibits and "EDDIE," the world's largest child.

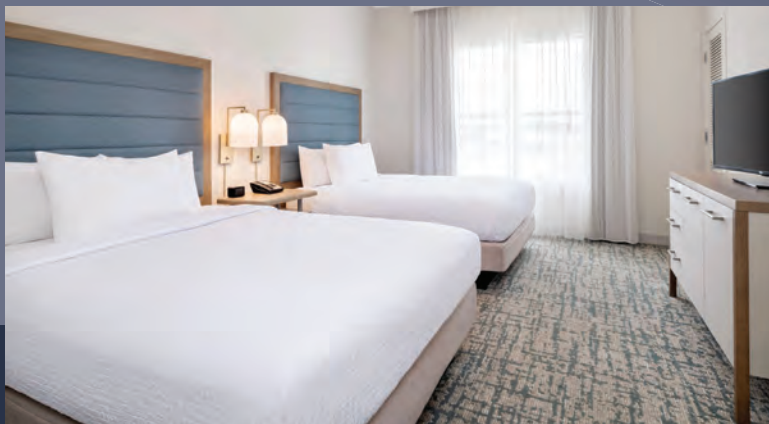
Contact: 803-779-3100
EdVenture.org

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ExperienceColumbiaSC.com



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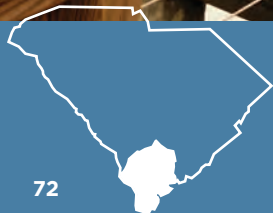
REGION

LOWCOUNTRY & RESORT ISLANDS

The hectic pace of life seems to slow down when you head to the Lowcountry, where Spanish moss-draped oak trees and wild marshlands set the scene for relaxation. Here, fishing, sailing, kayaking, hunting and sunset watching are common pastimes. Bike along the beachfront trails and beneath the shade of subtropical maritime forests, tee off on iconic golf courses, fill up on Gullah-inspired soul food and stay in historic mansions turned into B&Bs.



Bluffton



REGIONAL MUST-SEES Henry C. Chambers Waterfront Park, Beaufort | Heyward House - Museum and Welcome Center, Bluffton
Edisto Island Serpentarium, Edisto Island | The Bonito Boathouse, Fripp Island | Hilton Head Island Bike Trails, Hilton Head Island
Hunting Island State Park, Hunting Island | Shrimp Shack, St. Helena Island | Colleton County Museum & Farmers Market, Walterboro

Beach Ready

This region has no shortage of pristine, picturesque beaches. From popular spots offering a plethora of amenities to quiet oases amid sand dunes and beach grasses, there's a stretch of sand to suit your style.

Edisto Beach, Edisto Island

For rugged beaches with a natural feel, head to the southern tip of the island to experience an undeveloped beach area, or explore the beaches at Edisto Beach State Park for beachcombing.

Coligny Beach Park, Hilton Head Island

This oceanfront park comes loaded with comfort amenities: restrooms, changing rooms, outdoor showers, wheelchair-friendly matting down to the water, even free Wi-Fi.

Hunting Island State Park Beach, Hunting Island

Beach-goers looking to reel in a catch can borrow rods and reels from this park's Nature Center to try their luck surf fishing from the sand or fishing from the pier over Fripp Inlet.

Get ready for fun in the sun and surf with this handy packing list.

- ☐ TOWELS
- ☐ BEACH OR FOLDING CHAIRS
- ☐ SAND TOYS
- ☐ COOLER WITH DRINKS AND SNACKS
- ☐ SUNSCREEN
- ☐ SUN HAT OR SUNSHADE
- ☐ BLUETOOTH SPEAKER
- ☐ OUTDOOR GAMES OR KITE
- ☐ FILL IN YOUR OWN!

Edisto Beach, Edisto Island



Naturally AMAZING

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WWW.SOUTHCAROLINALOWCOUNTRY.COM

DISCOVER
South Carolina

SPONSORED CONTENT

LOWCOUNTRY & RESORT ISLANDS

1 EDISTO BEACH STATE PARK

Start your visit at this state park on Edisto Island at the Environmental Learning Center for details about the history of the island, park and ACE Basin.

Contact: 843-869-2156
SouthCarolinaStateParks.com/
edisto-beach

2 SOUTH CAROLINA ARTISANS CENTER

Browse folk art, crafts and handmade goods by more than 200 of South Carolina's finest juried artists at this shop and art gallery housed in a restored Victorian cottage in Walterboro.

Contact: 843-549-0011
SCArtisansCenter.com

3 FRAMPTON PLANTATION VISITORS CENTER AND GIFT SHOP

Stop at this historic farmhouse in Yemassee to learn from the locals about all the naturally amazing things to see and do in the region.

Contact: 843-717-3090
SouthCarolinaLowcountry.com

4 BURNT CHURCH DISTILLERY

Sip a lineup of Lowcountry-made spirits—and hear the local history that inspired their names—when you visit this distillery in Bluffton for a behind-the-scenes tour.

Contact: 843-872-0158
BurntChurchDistillery.com

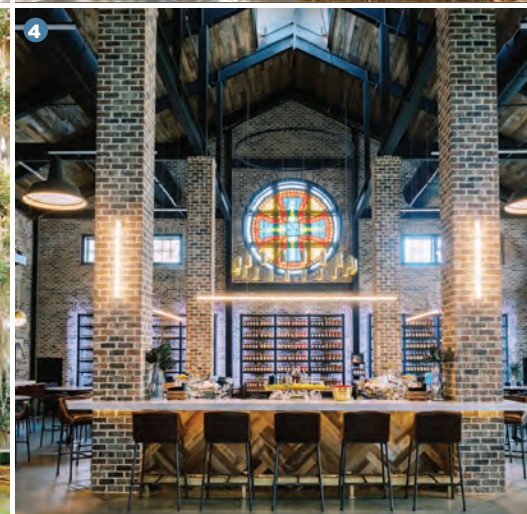
5 ONE HOT MAMA'S BBQ

With locations on Hilton Head Island and Bluffton, pull over at this stop on the Official South Carolina BBQ Trail to order hickory-smoked pulled pork or award-winning baby back ribs.

Contact: 843-682-6262
843-815-6262
OneHotMamas.com

MORE INFORMATION

Lowcountry Tourism
Commission
843-717-3090
SouthCarolinaLowcountry.com



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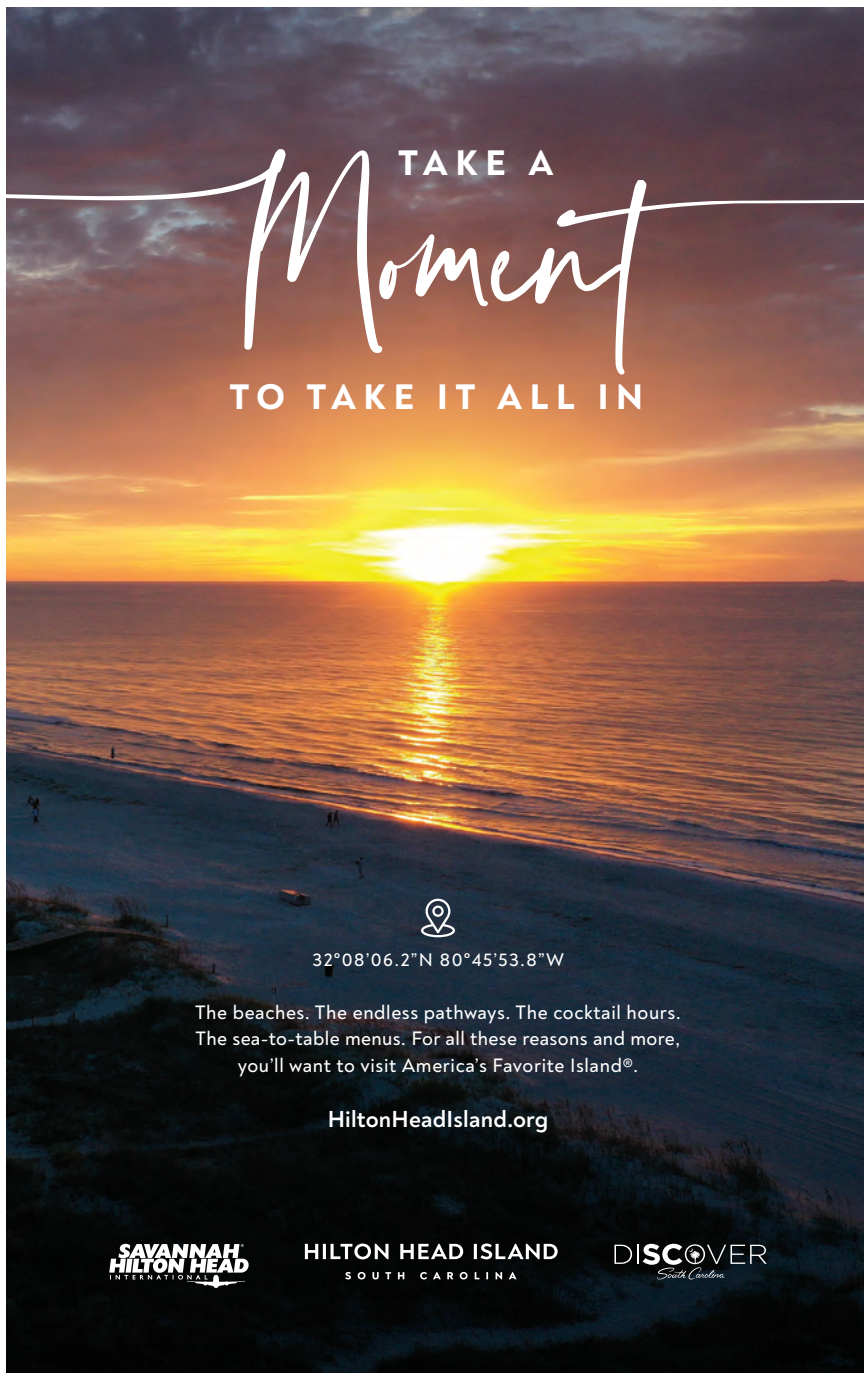
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DISCOVER



FRESHEST FLAVORS OF THE SEASON

The bounty of South Carolina's coastal region is on full display at the rustic-chic FARM restaurant in Bluffton, led by SC Chef Ambassador Brandon Carter. Dine on hand-harvested oysters from Lowcountry salt marshes, crisp salads made with vegetables from nearby farms and specialty pastas crafted with care. Each dish reflects the flavors of the season.

REGION

MYRTLE BEACH AREA & THE GRAND STRAND

When you're ready for action, South Carolina's Grand Strand is the place to be. Soaring resorts, thrilling family-friendly attractions and all manner of restaurants are just steps from more than 60 miles of beaches. For a slower pace, retreat to a barrier island in the Hammock Coast area; or, for timeless music and moves, head to North Myrtle Beach to the birthplace of the state dance, the "Carolina Shag."



Atalaya Castle, Huntington
Beach State Park, Murrells Inlet



REGIONAL MUST-SEES Conway Riverwalk, Conway | Hopsewee Plantation, Georgetown | Atalaya Castle/Huntington Beach State Park, Murrells Inlet
The Carolina Opry Theater, Myrtle Beach | Alligator Adventure, North Myrtle Beach | Pawleys Island Nature Park, Pawleys Island



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Discover Hidden Gems



Soak Up Water Adventures



Sip & Savor Good Times

NORTH MYRTLE BEACH MEANS MORE BLISS

Soak in our natural beaches, water adventures and coastal entertainment at your own pace. Our attractions, shopping and dining will give you even more to treasure.

From the waves to the waterway, find more bliss in North Myrtle Beach.



EXPLORENORTHMYRTLEBEACH.COM

EXPLORE
NORTH MYRTLE
BEACH

DISCOVER
South Carolina



Ripley's Aquarium, Myrtle Beach

VISIT MYRTLE BEACH

Kid-Friendly Fun For All IN MYRTLE BEACH

The Myrtle Beach area is known for its dazzling family-friendly entertainment and attractions, but the best part is: it's welcoming for all kinds of visitors. Families seeking an array of amenities and accommodations—from sensory-friendly experiences to ADA-accessible areas—can enjoy an array of fun and stress-free activities.

Ripley's Aquarium has partnered with Champion Autism Network to create a monthly sensory-friendly night. Stop by the event table to pick up a selfie scavenger hunt and noise canceling headphones (upon request). Myrtle Beach Bowl also features a monthly "quiet" bowling event for visitors with sensory needs. Sky Zone trampoline park offers sensory hours for a quieter, toned-down experience, as well as the new Lil' Ninja area for toddlers to explore jumping and playing safely in an age-appropriate area. And Savannah's Playground is welcoming for all kinds of kid-friendly fun, with wheelchair-accessible components, adaptive chairs on the zipline and various areas for age-appropriate and creative play.



BREAKFAST IS SERVED

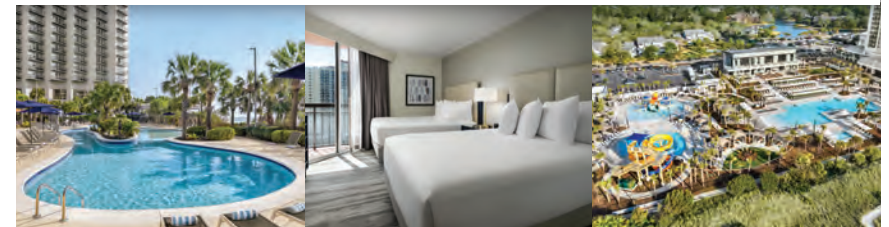
At Johnny D's Waffles and Benedicts in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina Chef Ambassador Jamie Daskalis whips up fluffy pancakes stuffed with fresh ingredients and piled with delightful toppings. You'll also find creative waffle flavors, French toast made with pound cake and over-the-top benedicts, such as crab cake benedict served with grits.



MYRTLE BEACH, **ONLY BETTER.**

Kingston Resorts, located along Myrtle Beach's beautiful and spacious Grand Strand, has been transformed with a multi-million dollar renovation. Including the Hilton and Embassy Suites, Kingston's legacy as a premier beach destination has been totally refreshed both inside and out. Enjoy new dining spaces, fire pits, event space and Black Drum Brewing. Relax at oceanfront pools, Currents Seaside Entertainment and the stunning spa and fitness center.

 Kingston Resorts



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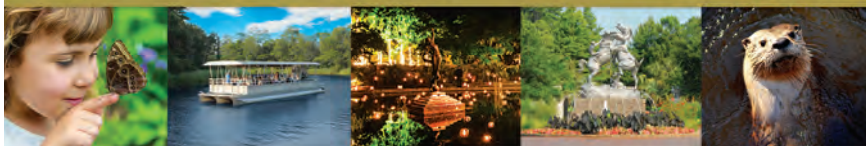


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South Carolina

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DISCOVER GEORGETOWN

1 SOUTH CAROLINA MARITIME MUSEUM

This museum features exhibits, programs and events related to South Carolina's rich and remarkable maritime history and culture.

Contact: 843-520-0111
SCMaritimeMuseum.org

2 THE GEORGE HOTEL

The George is an upscale boutique hotel situated along the waterfront on Historic Front Street, ready to welcome you with 56 luxurious rooms and suites.

Contact: TheGeorgeHotelSC.com

3 PRINCE GEORGE WINYAH PARISH CHURCH

Formed in 1721, Prince George Winyah Parish Church is one of the few original church buildings in South Carolina dating to the colonial period.

Contact: 843-546-4358
PGWinyah.com

4 GEORGETOWN LANDING MARINA

Georgetown Landing Marina is the area's largest, most accessible full-service marina that boasts a 680 foot floating transient face dock.

Contact: 843-546-1776
GeorgetownLandingMarina.com

5 OLD GEORGETOWN WALKING TOURS

History comes alive in South Carolina's third oldest city as you casually stroll tree-lined streets learning about the history of Georgetown, South Carolina.

Contact: 843-546-3745
OldGeorgetownWalkingTours.com

MORE INFORMATION

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DiscoverGeorgetownSC.com



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REGION

OLD 96 DISTRICT

Charming small towns dot the rural landscape of this region, where you'll find freshwater lakes, state parks and Revolutionary War battle sites—all just minutes from historic downtown areas, community theaters and 1800s mansions converted into museums. Take a leisurely drive through the pastoral landscapes and, along the way, pull over at rustic farm stands and U-pick berry fields.

DR. BENJAMIN ELMAR MAYS

Aug. 1, 1854 - Mar. 28, 1948

A Son of Farmer James

Born and Raised in Greenwood's Epworth Community

President of Morehouse College, 1940-1957

Mentor and Educator for Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Admired by Presidents Kennedy, Johnson, and Carter

Baptist Minister - "Theologian"

Old Rights Pioneer

"Last of the Great Schoolmasters"

Author - "Legendary Orator"

Organized Phi Psi Gamma Chapter 1919

Dr. Benjamin E. Mays Historical Preservation Site, Greenwood



REGIONAL MUST-SEES The Burt-Stark Mansion, Abbeville | The Belmont Inn, Abbeville | Carolina Moon Distillery, Edgefield | Greenwood Railroad Historical Center, Greenwood | Laurens Historic District, Laurens | Heritage Gold Mine Park, McCormick | 96 Pecan Company - Murray Farms, Ninety Six



Abbeville Opera House, Abbeville

ARTIST'S creativity

With its charming small towns and historic districts, this region is home to numerous art galleries, theaters and attractions to experience local culture and creativity.

The **Abbeville Opera House** has hosted traveling performances of all kinds, from vaudeville and burlesque to Broadway musicals and dramatic productions. Take a seat in the grand venue to watch live music and performances year-round. The **Laurens County Community Theatre**

in Clinton is a non-profit community-run production company bringing live performances and musicals to the area. For visual art, peruse the exhibitions at **The Arts Center of Greenwood** or attend one of the art classes, workshops or camps to explore your own artistic inclinations. Bring home a souvenir from the **MACK Artisans Guild & Gift Shop** in McCormick, which features an array of locally made wares, from handcrafted pottery and jewelry to fine artwork and original greeting cards.

STROLL INTO THE PAST IN ABBEVILLE

Civil War history, small-town charm and even a few ghost stories come together in **Abbeville**, where the downtown square is lined with locally owned businesses, specialty boutiques, cozy eateries and grand architecture. Start your visit at the Welcome Center for a map of the **Abbeville Historic Walking Tour**, a self-guided tour of 60 locations. Each stop has signage with a QR code that can be scanned with your mobile device for more information. Then, unpack your bags at **The Belmont Inn**, listed on the National Register of Historic Places, before heading out to a show at the **Abbeville Opera House**, open since 1904.



Downtown Abbeville

Old 96 District
SOUTH CAROLINA

DISCOVER
South Carolina



**Sometimes the
Journey Really is
About the
Destination.**

Plan your getaway in South Carolina's Old 96 District! Experience our small-town hospitality with cozy B&Bs, unique shops, and attractions to enjoy with the whole family. Visit our website or scan the QR code to see more of our Unexpected Wonders.

VISITOLD96SC.COM



ABBEVILLE, EDGEFIELD, GREENWOOD, LAURENS, AND McCORMICK COUNTIES

SPONSORED CONTENT

OLD 96 DISTRICT

1 CALHOUN FALLS STATE PARK

Swim, boat or fish in Lake Russell at this state park in Calhoun Falls. Hike the 1.75-mile Cedar Bluff Nature Trail for scenery and birding. Campsites are available.

Contact: 864-447-8267
SouthCarolinaParks.com/
calhoun-falls

2 INDIGENOUS UNDERGROUND

SC Chef Ambassador Erica McCier brings the freshest ingredients to the menu at her downtown Abbeville restaurant, where she serves up eclectic Southern cuisine.

Contact: 864-366-9054
IndigenousUnderground.com

3 DR. BENJAMIN E. MAYS HISTORICAL PRESERVATION SITE

In Greenwood, see the birth home of Dr. Benjamin E. Mays, a minister who mentored many influential activists and laid the foundation for the American Civil Rights Movement.

Contact: 864-229-8833
MaysHouseMuseum.org

4 THREE STAR VINEYARD AND ORCHARD

This family-owned and -operated vineyard in Johnston features acres of muscadine and scuppernong grapevines. Stop by the tasting room to sample wines.

Contact: 803-275-3200
ThreeStarVando.com

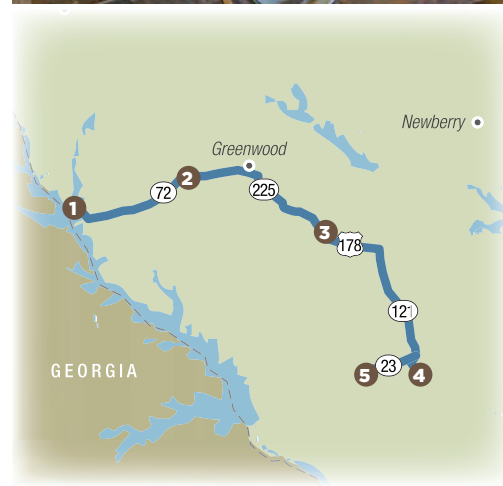
5 CHRISTINE'S FARM TO FORK

Indulge in upscale Southern cuisine—think Fried Green Tomato Napoleon, crab cakes and shrimp and grits with Cajun cream sauce—at this eatery in Edgefield.

Contact: 803-615-0695
ChristinesFarmtoFork.com

MORE INFORMATION

Old 96 Tourism Commission
864-984-2233
VisitOld96SC.com





REGION

OLDE ENGLISH DISTRICT

Named for its concentration of English settlers during the 1770s, this region is rich in colonial history with centuries-old cemeteries, battlefields and important historic sites. Uncover stories of the past at old plantations and family farms. Then, make your own stories with outdoor adventures at state parks, botanical gardens, golf courses and biking trails, plus thrilling sports destinations.

REGIONAL MUST-SEES Chester Historic District, Chester | Cheraw State Park Golf Course, Cheraw | Camden Archives & Museum, Camden
East Main Street Historic District, Chesterfield | Fort Mill History Museum, Fort Mill | Carolina Motorsports Park, Kershaw
Andrew Jackson State Park, Lancaster | Glencairn Garden, Rock Hill

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DISCOVER
South Carolina

SCAN TO MAP
OUT YOUR NEXT
ADVENTURE



Andrew Jackson State
Park, Lancaster

American History

This district received its name due to its early settlement by the English in the mid 1770s, and numerous notable events have happened since then. Explore this rich history and visit these sites to learn about the movers and shakers who were involved.

Andrew Jackson State Park, Lancaster

Living history programs, a museum and interactive exhibits focused on the boyhood of the seventh U.S. President, Andrew Jackson, keep the past present at this state park.

Historic Brattonsville, McConells

With 30-plus structures dating from the 1760s to late 1800s (plus the battlefield of Huck's Defeat), this site preserves the history and architecture of the area. Visit the oldest structure, the 1766 home of Colonel William Bratton, a Revolutionary War leader

who led the defeat of Captain Christian Huck.

Jail, No Bail! Exhibit, Rock Hill

At this exhibit, get to know the "Friendship Nine," a group of nine African American activists who went to jail after bravely staging a sit-in at the McCrory's Five & Dime lunch counter in Rock Hill to protest segregation.

Rose Hill Plantation State Historic Site, Union

This former cotton plantation site was once home of South Carolina "Secession Governor" William Henry Gist. Take a guided tour of the historic house to learn about this political figure, as well as the area's cotton industry, secession, the Civil War, emancipation and the Reconstruction era.

Kershaw-Cornwallis House, Camden

Explore the 107-acre Historic Camden Revolutionary War site, where you'll find this mansion that was once commandeered as headquarters by Lord Charles Cornwallis when the British forces occupied Camden during the Revolutionary War.

SPONSORED CONTENT

OLDE ENGLISH DISTRICT

1 GOODALE STATE PARK

At this state park in Camden, paddle the 3-mile canoe trail through towering cypress trees, hike the 2-mile nature trail to spot wildlife and see the Civil War-era mill pond.

Contact: 803-432-2772
SouthCarolinaStateParks.com/
goodale

2 ANNE SPRINGS CLOSE GREENWAY

A 2,100-acre nature preserve amid lakes and hardwood forests, this open space in Fort Mill offers 40 miles of trails, plus boating, horseback riding and disc golf.

Contact: 803-547-4575
ASCGreenway.org

3 FORT MILL HISTORY MUSEUM

Travel back in time and explore Fort Mill's boundless history when you visit the exhibits and experience the events at the Fort Mill History Museum.

Contact: 803-302-3646
FMHM.org

4 KOUNTER

Inventive global fusion dishes—from Chicken + Waffle Sushi to Deep South Bao Tacos—are on the menu at this eatery in Rock Hill, helmed by SC Chef Ambassador Rob Masone.

Contact: 803-328-7333
KounterDining.com

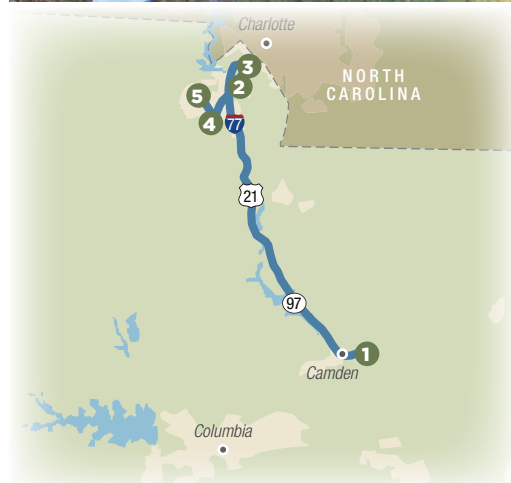
5 BUSH-N-VINE FARM

Stop by this open-air market in York for freshly grown strawberries, blueberries, peaches, blackberries and pumpkins, as well as ice cream and just-made doughnuts.

Contact: 803-684-2732
BushNVineFarm.com

MORE INFORMATION

Olde English District
803-830-7286
OldeEnglishDistrict.com



VISIT

Lancaster, SC

THE RED ROSE CITY



Tucked along the Catawba River, the city of Lancaster seamlessly blends natural beauty with historic character. A city on the rise, Lancaster continues to exhibit a progressive, family-oriented quality of life that continues to receive newcomers and visitors with small-town charm and Southern hospitality.



Discover the undiscovered with our unique arts, rich history and culture, events and festivals, along with so much more!



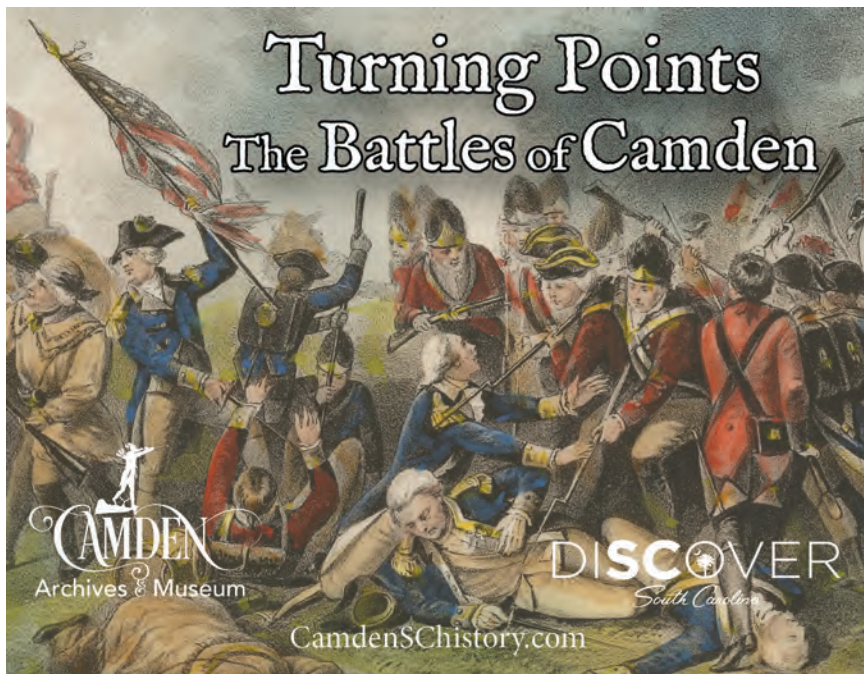
www.lancastercitysc.com
see lancaster city



Kounter, Rock Hill

SERVING UP A SIDE OF HISTORY

When South Carolina Chef Ambassador Rob Masone set out to open his new eatery in the location of a former five-and-dime, he learned it was the site of a notable protest during the Civil Rights Movement, when several Black students from Friendship Junior College were denied service but refused to leave. Masone insisted on honoring the significance of the sit-in by incorporating it into his Rock Hill restaurant he fittingly named "Kounter." Today, patrons can opt to dine while sitting at the well-preserved, original counter in seats that bear the names of those nine activists who courageously stood their ground.



WHERE THE PAST
COMES TO LIFE

Travel through time with a visit to the Fort Mill History Museum!



FMHM.ORG

Free Admission



DISCOVER
South Carolina



Discover how South Carolina's quest for independence turned the tide of the American Revolution. With the first permanent exhibit of its kind, the Revolutionary War Visitor Center at Camden tells the powerful story of the Southern Campaign and the valiant patriots with their hearts set on liberty.

DISCOVER
South Carolina



SimplyRevolutionary.com

Admission Is Free

803.272.0076 | 212 Broad Street

REGION

PEE DEE COUNTRY

Named for the area's first residents—the Pee Dee Indian Tribe—this region is rich with the natural beauty of the outdoors: free-flowing rivers, wildlife-filled swamplands and blooming gardens. Time travel at Revolutionary War and Civil War sites, stroll through architecturally diverse historic districts and learn about the area's agrarian past at tobacco and cotton farms and museums.



REGIONAL MUST-SEES Marlboro County Museum Complex, Bennettsville | The South Carolina Cotton Museum, Bishopville
Darlington Raceway, Darlington | Little Pee Dee State Park, Dillon | Palmetto Peddlers, Florence | Kalmia Gardens, Hartsville
Moore Farms Botanical Garden, Lake City | Big John's Soul Food Restaurant & BBQ Grill, Marion



FLORENCE CVB

Neptune Island Waterpark, Hartsville

Playtime For All

From toddler-friendly activities to teen-approved thrills, this region is home to all kinds of attractions for any age.

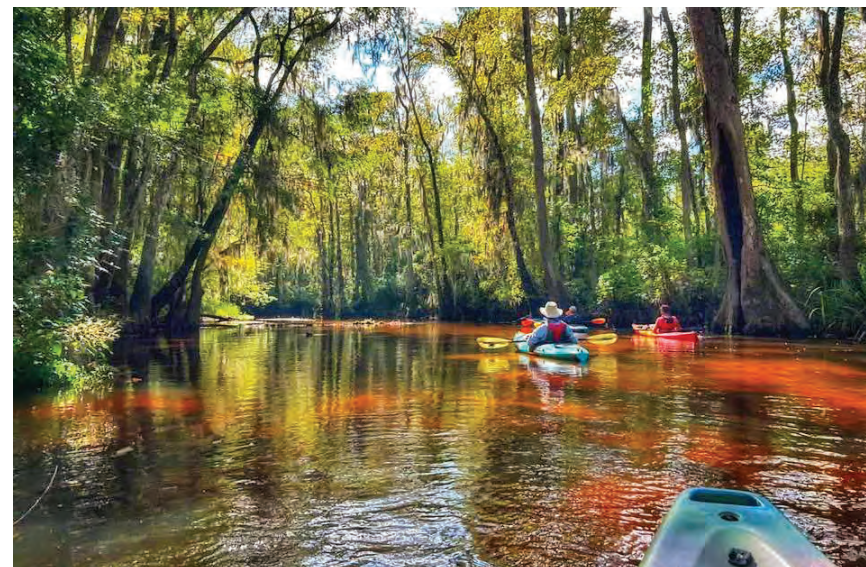
Bring aspiring astronomers to watch a show at **Dooley Planetarium** at Francis Marion University in Florence, or stop by its observatory facility to peer into the cosmos.

At **Neptune Island Waterpark** in Hartsville, little ones can play in the splash pad, daredevils can whoosh down the speed slide (riders can hit speeds of up to 30 miles per hour), and leisure lovers can relax on the lazy river.

Car enthusiasts won't want to miss the NASCAR races at **Darlington Raceway** in Darlington or late model and street stocks screaming around the track at **Dillon Motor Speedway** in Dillon.

At **Amazing Grace Park: The Clementa Pinckney Memorial Park** in Marion, enjoy a serene escape amid grassy spaces, a child-friendly play sculpture and an enclosed dog park for your four-legged family members.

Welcome
TO THE PEE DEE REGION



Explore our seven unique counties:
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MARION | MARLBORO | WILLIAMSBURG**



2513 W. Lucas St., Florence, South Carolina 29501
843-669-0950 | www.peedeetourism.com

NEPTUNE ISLAND

A WATERPARK ADVENTURE IN HARTSVILLE, SC



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South Carolina

WWW.NEPTUNEISLAND.COM

VISIT HARTSVILLE, SC



Visit
HARTSVILLE
SOUTH CAROLINA

WWW.VISITHARTSVILLESC.COM

SPONSORED CONTENT

VISIT FLORENCE

1 FLORENCE COUNTY MUSEUM

In the Florence County Museum, stroll through the Pee Dee History Gallery, visualize entering into Francis Marion's secret camp at Snow's Island or explore the personal world of artist William H. Johnson.

Contact: 843-676-1200
VisitFlo.com/flocomuseum

2 THE SC PECAN TRAIL

The SC Pecan Trail highlights local businesses and restaurants offering pecan treats and merchandise. Travel through Florence County on the tastiest trail you'll ever follow.

Contact: 843-664-0330
VisitFlo.com/sc-pecan-trail

3 VETERANS PARK

The Veterans Park opened in 2008 and features a memorial for every branch of the service. The park also contains memorial walls and a structure for every major conflict the United States servicemen and women have fought in.

Contact: 843-665-3253
VisitFlo.com/veteranspark

4 PADDLE THROUGH HISTORY

Follow the Revolutionary Rivers National Water Trail from Lynches River County Park and immerse yourself in the history of Francis Marion. For kayak rentals and river maps, check out visitflo.com/revrivers.

Contact: 843-389-0550
VisitFlo.com/lynchesriverpark

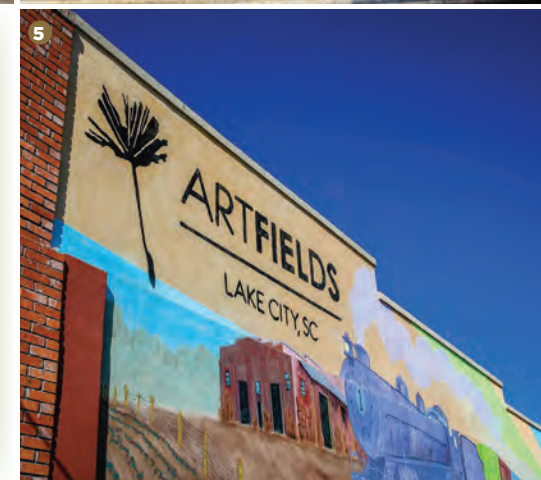
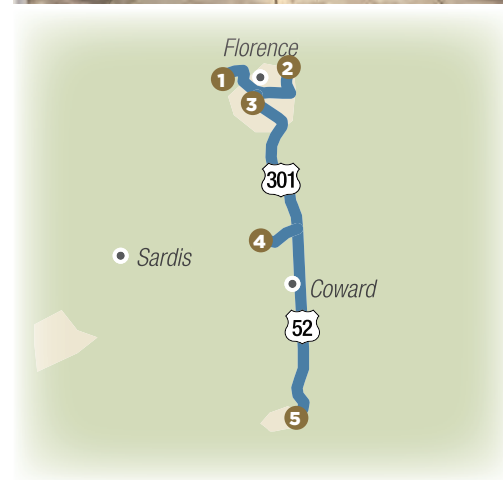
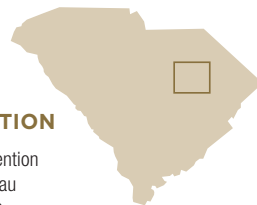
5 ARTFIELDS

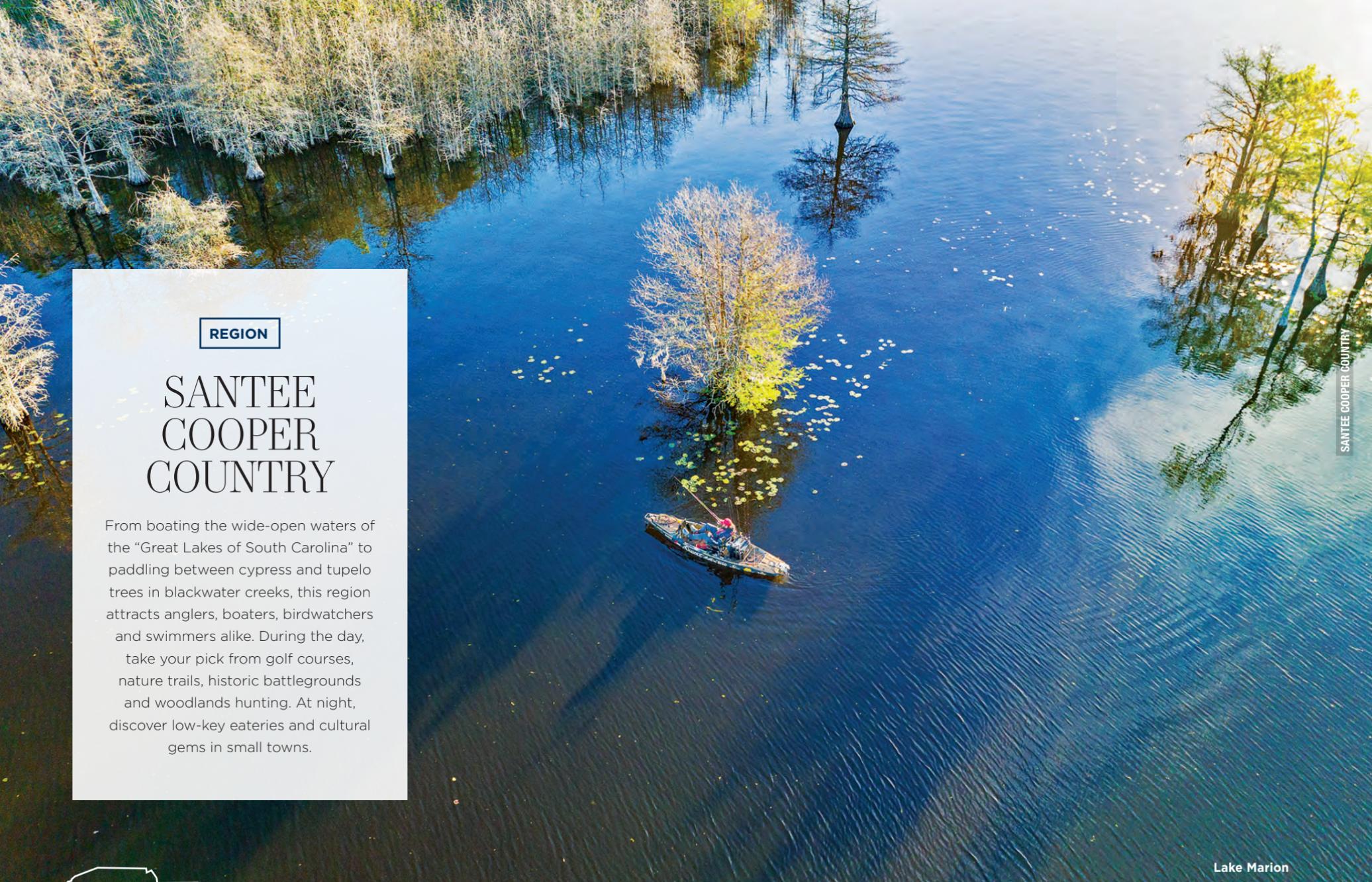
The Artfields Collective is a community arts organization located in Lake City. The annual Artfields event is in April of each year but the artwork can be seen throughout the city on buildings and more.

Contact: 843-374-0180
ArtfieldsSC.org

MORE INFORMATION

Florence Convention
& Visitors Bureau
843-664-0330
VisitFlo.com





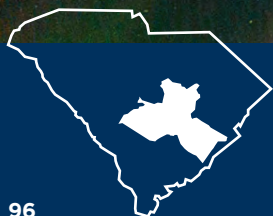
REGION

SANTEE COOPER COUNTRY

From boating the wide-open waters of the “Great Lakes of South Carolina” to paddling between cypress and tupelo trees in blackwater creeks, this region attracts anglers, boaters, birdwatchers and swimmers alike. During the day, take your pick from golf courses, nature trails, historic battlegrounds and woodlands hunting. At night, discover low-key eateries and cultural gems in small towns.

SANTEE COOPER COUNTRY

Lake Marion



REGIONAL MUST-SEES Cypress Gardens, Moncks Corner | Mepkin Abbey, Moncks Corner | Edisto Memorial Gardens, Orangeburg | Santee State Park, Santee | The Palmetto Traverse at Santee Cooper Golf Resort, Santee | Santee National Wildlife Refuge, Summerton | Sumter Opera House, Sumter



Santee State Park, Santee

Stay on the Water

Home to Lake Marion, the largest lake in South Carolina, and the adjacent Lake Moultrie, this region is a paradise for boaters and anglers. Stay where the action is at these lodging spots.

Angel's Landing Campground & Marina, Pineville

Camp along Lake Moultrie at this campground, which includes amenities like a hot showers, free Wi-Fi, ping pong and a seasonal swimming pool.

Taylor's Landing and Campground, Eutawville

At this family-friendly campground on Lake Marion, take your pick from RV sites, cabin and camper rentals, and

primitive camping for folks who love sleeping under the stars.

Mac's Landing Camp, Pineville

With a swim beach, fish-cleaning station, two boat ramps and two lighted fishing piers, this spot on Lake Marion is ideal for making your home base in a cabin or RV rental.

Lake Moultrie RV Park & Marina, Cross

Enjoy comfort amenities such as Wi-Fi, a laundry room and shower house at this waterfront spot, making it easy to stay long-term.

Santee State Park, Santee

Birding, biking, swimming—and yes, boating and fishing—are just a few of the activities available. Reserve one of the rondette-style cabins, which sit on piers over the water.

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DISCOVER
South Carolina



FAMILY, FOOD & FINE DINING

Harnessing the rich traditions of family, food and Italian culture, Milan-born Raffaele Dall'Ertà (2020/2021 South Carolina Chef Ambassador) transforms fresh, local produce and carefully selected meats into exquisite dishes at **Hamptons**, where he helms the kitchen as executive chef. The modern American-meets-Italian menu changes frequently to reflect in-season ingredients, but you'll find mouthwatering items such as short rib ravioli with truffle parmesan sauce, gourmet wood-fired pizzas and all manner of just-caught seafood. This culinary destination has turned the small town of Sumter into a fine dining destination beloved by locals and visitors alike.

SPONSORED CONTENT

SANTEE COOPER COUNTRY

1 SWAN LAKE IRIS GARDENS

Stroll this 150-acre public park in Sumter, where you'll find sculptures, all eight swan species (as well as many other birds) and more than 120 varieties of irises.

Contact: 803-436-2640
SumterSC.gov

2 LONE STAR BBQ & MERCANTILE

Savor hickory-smoked meats in an all-you-can-eat spread at this classic barbecue joint in Santee, housed in four old country stores also selling antiques and old-fashioned treats.

Contact: 803-795-3787
Facebook.com/
SanteeBBQPlusMore

3 SANTEE NATIONAL GOLF CLUB

Golfers will love the challenge of this course in Santee, which boasts a well-guarded front nine and a rolling, tree-lined back nine. The finishing hole ends at a stunning lake.

Contact: 803-854-3531
SanteeNational.com

4 CLARKS INN & RESTAURANT

This historic inn, restaurant, pub and gift shop has been welcoming travelers since 1946, offering an ideal home base for all the area's outdoor adventures.

Contact: 800-531-9658
ClarksInnAndRestaurant.com

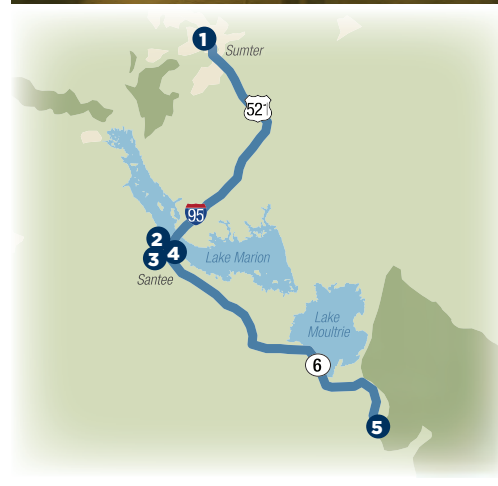
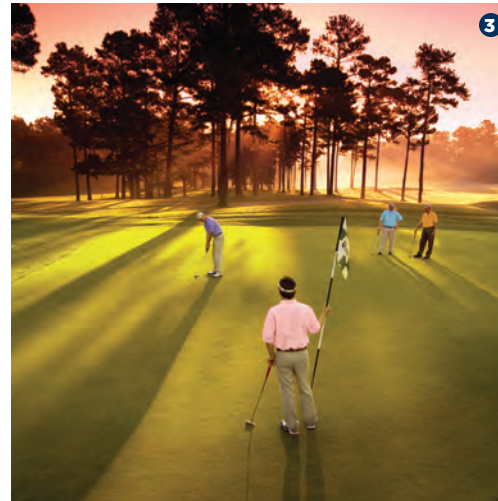
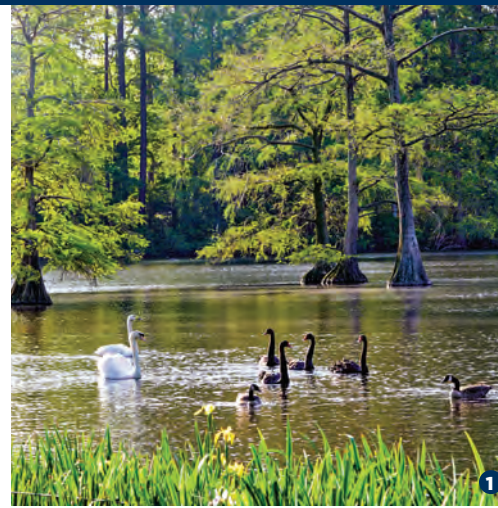
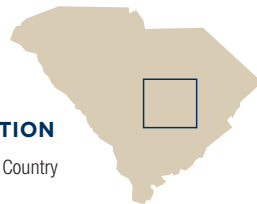
5 MEPKIN ABBEY

Located on the site of the historic Mepkin Plantation on the Cooper River in Moncks Corner, this Trappist monastery is open for day visits to explore the gardens, church and shop.

Contact: 843-761-8509
MepkinAbbey.org

MORE INFORMATION

Santee Cooper Country
803-854-2131
SanteeCooperCountry.org



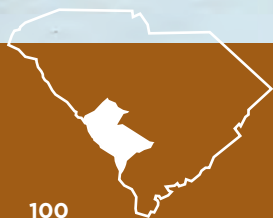
REGION

THOROUGHBRED COUNTRY

Preserving its time-honored equestrian heritage, this is the place to hear the thunder of hooves at thrilling steeplechase events, harness racing and polo matches. Spend your day exploring the picturesque countryside and tranquil state parks or pick up fresh finds at a farmers market. Then, stroll through the charming towns to discover antique stores, artisan shops, gourmet eateries, history museums and family-friendly activities.



Downtown Aiken



REGIONAL MUST-SEES Aiken Thoroughbred Racing Hall of Fame and Museum, Aiken | Red Bluff Lodge, Allendale | Cliff's Seafood & Grill, Bamberg | Little Red Barn Pottery & Art Gallery, Barnwell | Barnwell State Park, Blackville | Nelson's Wee Bake, Denmark | North Augusta Greenway Trail, North Augusta

Living History Park,
North Augusta

From the
American
Revolution to the
Civil War, this area
was the site of battle
action throughout
the centuries.

STORIES FROM THE Battleground

Aiken County Historical Museum, Aiken

This history museum chronicles the area's past, from early Native American residents to 1950s relics. Get a glimpse into the Revolutionary War in the exhibit that delves into the skirmish at Fort Galphin.

God's Acre Healing Springs, Blackville

The mystical healing powers of these freshwater springs gained popularity during the Revolutionary War, when legend has it that the waters helped wounded British soldiers make a full recovery. Today, people travel great distances to collect some of this "miraculous" water for themselves.

Living History Park, North Augusta

Feel like you've traveled back in time at this collection of recreated buildings, where you'll find a grist

mill, mercantile, blacksmith forge, sweets shop and various log cabins. Visit during one of the special events to experience historical reenactors reliving the colonial era that led to the American Revolution.

Audubon's Silver Bluff Sanctuary, Jackson

A Native American trading post turned British fort, the Silver Bluff area saw Revolutionary War action. Today, this 3,400-acre woodland area along the Savannah River features scenic walking trails and incredible birding—bald eagles, barred owls and nuthatches can be spotted year-round.

Arts & Heritage Center of North Augusta, North Augusta

Learn about the area's key players in the Revolutionary War and Civil War with permanent and rotating exhibits at this hub of arts and history.





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SPONSORED CONTENT

THOROUGHBRED COUNTRY

1 SLEEP: Birdnest Inn

Stay at the Birdnest Inn, a bed and breakfast located in an urban farm environment in Aiken, close to golf courses and equestrian competitions. Full of original art and an impressive collection of handmade pottery, however, free Wi-Fi is available. Pet-friendly, non-smoking environment.
Contact: 979-530-3900
TheBirdnestInn.com

2 OUTDOOR: Hitchcock Woods

You don't have to be an equestrian to traverse through Hitchcock Woods in Aiken, one of the largest urban forests in the country. Locals and visitors alike venture through the wondrous woods on foot or hoof daily to connect with nature.
Contact: 803-642-0528
VisitAikenSC.com/do/hitchcock_woods/

3 ART: Aiken Center for the Arts

Plan a visit to the Aiken Center for the Arts where not only can you explore unique art exhibits and learn about artists, you can take classes and become one yourself.
Contact: 803-641-9094
VisitAikenSC.com/do/aiken-center-for-the-arts/

4 EAT: Manuel's Bread Café

At Manuel's Bread Café in North Augusta, indulge your taste buds at this French bistro in the Hammond's Ferry neighborhood. Great chef's specials and excellent wine selection makes Manuel's great for lunch or a special dinner.

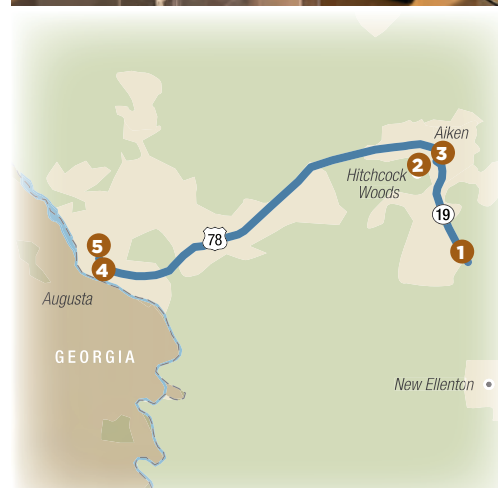
Contact: 803-380-1323
ManuelsBreadCafe.com

5 HISTORY: Living History Park

Step back into time at the Living History Park in North Augusta and discover history brought to life through living exhibits, live demonstrations and several year-round events.
Contact: 803-979-9776
ColonialTimes.US

MORE INFORMATION

Thoroughbred Country
888-834-1654
TBredCountry.org





REGION

THE UPCOUNTRY & LAKE HARTWELL COUNTRY

From dramatic cliffs and gorges to pristine lakes and waterfalls, this area is just plain awe-inspiring. Amidst all that natural beauty, find scenic cities with revitalized historic districts and thriving cultural hubs where museums, art galleries and concert halls beckon. In between, discover family-owned farms, sprawling peach and apple orchards, Revolutionary War sites and plenty of outdoor recreation.

Paris Mountain Country
Club, Greenville



REGIONAL MUST-SEES Palmetto Distillery, Anderson | Fort Hill National Historic Landmark, Clemson | Falls Park on the Reedy, Greenville
The Village Bakery & Cafe, Pendleton | Hagood Mill Historic Site, Pickens | Hatcher Garden, Spartanburg | Gateway Park, Travelers Rest

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SOUTH CAROLINA



Twin Falls, Sunset

Waterfall chasers have more than enough choices of paths to travel in the Upcountry. Simply follow the sound to find some of our favorites.

Ramsey Creek Falls, Chau Ram County Park, Westminster

An easy hike in Oconee County's "Best-Kept Secret" leads to the 40-foot falls, which cascade over a handful of boulders before emptying into a pool below on their way to the nearby Chauga River.

Issaqueena Falls, Stumphouse Park, Walhalla

Framed on all sides by lush green forest, this 100-foot waterfall is named after the local Native American woman in a legendary (and historically disputed) love story—some renditions of which involve her leaping off the falls.

Wildcat Branch Falls, Mountain Bridge Wilderness Area, Cleveland

The lower falls are viewable right off the Cherokee Foothills Scenic

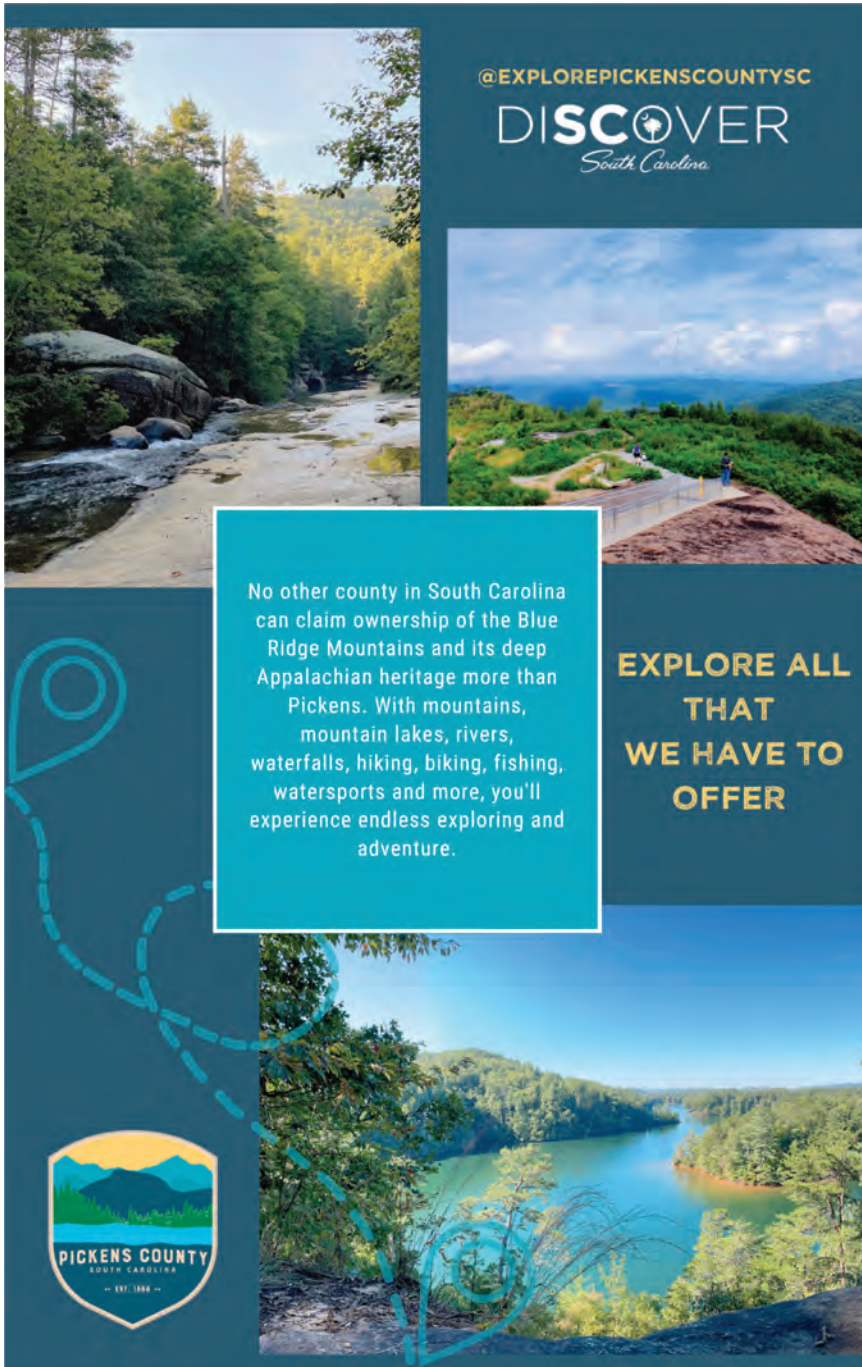
Highway, but beware—the upper section is more of a waterslide than waterfalls and is quite slippery! We recommend enjoying the view from the bottom.

Twin Falls, Twin Falls Trail, Sunset

Often called the state's most spectacular waterfalls, two cascades on Reedy Cove Creek rush 75 feet over a steep granite drop-off, making this a sight you'll hear long before you see it—especially after rainfall.

Station Cove Falls, Oconee Station State Historic Site, Walhalla


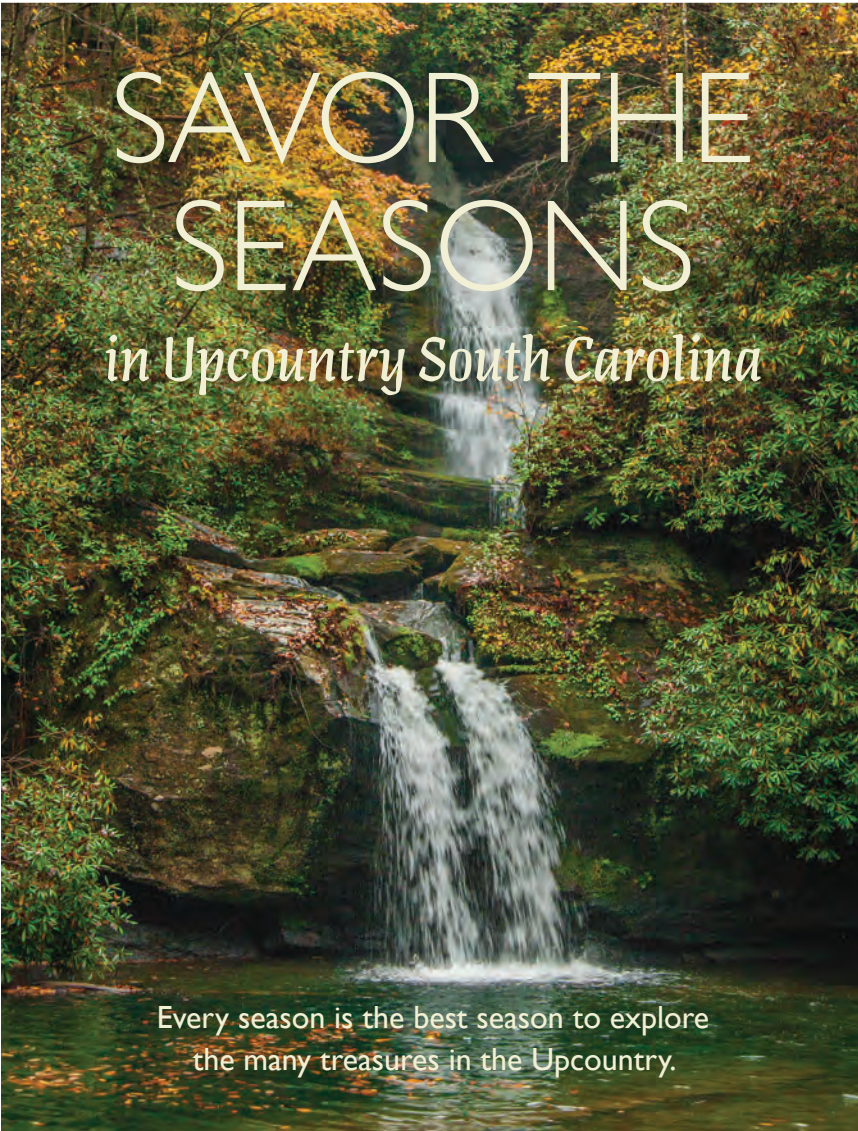
Hike an easy 30 minutes along a cove forest trail blooming with wildflowers to this stepped waterfall formed by mountain headwaters—a spring and summer favorite of Upcountry locals and visitors.



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DISCOVER
South Carolina

No other county in South Carolina can claim ownership of the Blue Ridge Mountains and its deep Appalachian heritage more than Pickens. With mountains, mountain lakes, rivers, waterfalls, hiking, biking, fishing, watersports and more, you'll experience endless exploring and adventure.


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in Upcountry South Carolina

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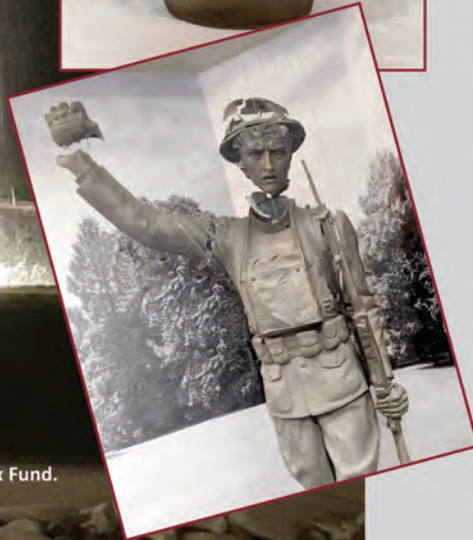
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ANDERSONIANS
IN WAR



LETTING HISTORY *Speak*

From one room and humble beginnings to more than 12,000 square feet of gallery space, the award-winning Anderson County Museum (ACM) has been sharing the history of Anderson County and South Carolina since 1983. As a collecting museum with 30,000 plus artifacts, there is always something new to discover!



(864) 260-4737
202 E Greenville Street, Anderson, SC 29621
andersoncountymuseum.sc.gov

Advertising funding provided by Anderson County Accommodations Tax Fund.

SPONSORED CONTENT

DISCOVER GREER, SC

1 GREER STATION

Downtown Greer, known as Greer Station, is a place where charming brick-paved streets lead to chic boutiques, award-winning restaurants and lodging within steps of shopping.

Contact: 864-848-2150
DiscoverGreer.com

2 CITY OF GREER CENTER FOR THE ARTS

Formerly a tabernacle, the renovated arts center features theater performances, artists in residence, events and a rotating arts gallery.

Contact: 864-848-5383
CityofGreer.org

3 GREER CITY PARK

Greer City Park is the hub for special events. Located in Downtown Greer, events feature performances, food from around the world and local artisans.

Contact: 864-968-7008
CityofGreer.org

4 GREER GOLF

This 18-hole public golf course is operated by the City of Greer. The renovated clubhouse and course are located amongst the foothills of northern Greer.

Contact: 864-877-9279
GreerGolf.com

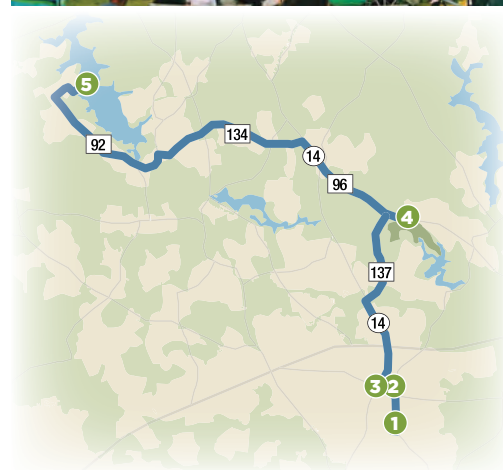
5 LAKE ROBINSON

Lake Robinson offers stunning views of the Blue Ridge Mountains and a calm environment for picnics, kayaking, paddleboarding and fishing.

Contact: 864-848-5500
GreerCPW.com

MORE INFORMATION

Discover Greer
864-848-2150
DiscoverGreer.com





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ORDER OF LOCAL GOODNESS.

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Anderson Arts Center

Keeping the
Arts Accessible

The Bradbury Bistro

Coffee, Wine
& Spirits



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visit
Anderson
south carolina's bright spot

SPONSORED CONTENT

LAKE HARTWELL COUNTRY

1 ANDERSON COUNTY MUSEUM

Immerse yourself in the history and heritage of Anderson. With engaging exhibits and artifacts, the museum offers insights into the area's past, including its agricultural, textile and military history.

Contact: 864-260-4737
AndersonCountyMuseum.sc.gov

2 PALMETTO DISTILLERY

For those interested in spirits, Palmetto Distillery offers tours and tastings of their locally crafted moonshine and whiskey. Learn about the distillation process and enjoy samples of their unique products.

Contact: 864-226-9917
PalmettoDistillery.com

3 DENVER DOWNS FARM

If you're visiting during the fall, Denver Downs Farm is a must-visit. This working farm transforms into a fantastic fall festival with corn mazes, pumpkin patches, hayrides, live entertainment and various activities for the whole family.

Contact: 864-515-4554
DenverDownsFarm.com

4 SADLERS CREEK STATE PARK

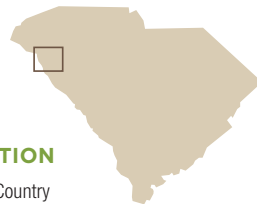
A great spot for recreational activities offering hiking trails, boating, fishing and picnicking areas along the shores of Lake Hartwell. The park provides a beautiful natural setting to unwind and enjoy the outdoors.

Contact: 864-226-8950
SouthCarolinaParks.com/
sadlers-creek

5 SULLIVAN'S METROPOLITAN GRILL

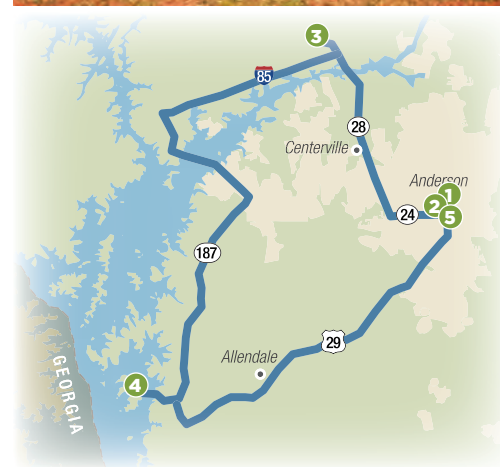
This upscale restaurant offers a diverse menu featuring delicious steaks, seafood and other gourmet dishes. The cozy atmosphere and top-notch cuisine make it a favorite among locals and visitors alike.

Contact: 864-226-8945
SullivansMetroGrill.com



MORE INFORMATION

Lake Hartwell Country
864-646-3782
LakeHartwellCountry.com



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THE WAY.



ILLUSTRATIONS BY
JARED SNAVELY

Jared lives and works
in Bluffton, SC.

Instagram: @jaredosnavely



◀ White-Tailed Deer

This medium-sized deer has a brown coat and signature white underside of the tail. In Anderson, look for them along the easy Pine Grove Trail in **Sadlers Creek State Park**.

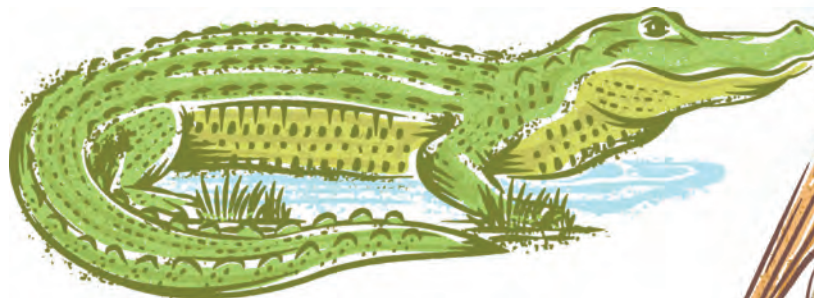
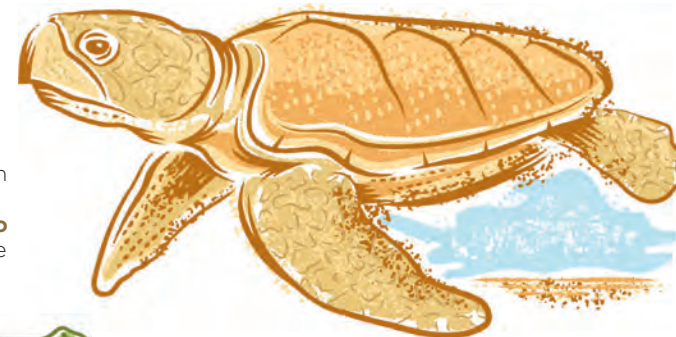


▲ Spotted Salamander

These tiny creatures may be hard to spot, but look at Marietta's **Jones Gap State Park** in the Mountain Bridge Wilderness Area. The blueish-black crawlers tout bright yellow spots.

Loggerhead Sea Turtle ▶

With reddish-brown top shells, pale-yellow bottom shells and brown-and-yellow scutes (scales) on the head and flippers, these turtles come to **Edisto Beach State Park** on Edisto Island to lay eggs. See them during nesting season, May to October.



▲ Alligator

On the trails of **Huntington Beach State Park** in Murrells Inlet, watch for crossings of these massive reptiles, which feature armor-like skin, rounded snouts and mouths full of jagged teeth. Keep your distance!



◀ Brown Pelican

At **Myrtle Beach State Park**, keep an eye out for these large coastal birds with grayish-brown bodies, white necks, orange beaks and expandable neck pouches used to catch fish.

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